

## Acton Edward Prof (VCO)

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From: ALASTAIRMUIR RUSSELL [REDACTED]  
Sent: 03 December 2009 00:11  
To: Acton Edward Prof (VCO)  
Subject: RE: CRU Review at UEA  
Attachments: MR comments - Draft Statement - CRU.doc; MR blog - UEA.docx

Edward *[Information exempted pursuant to s.40(2), Freedom of Information Act]*

Thanks. I am happy to sign up on this basis.

I attach a version of the draft press notice with some comments - I would be content for it to go out tomorrow as you wish.

If you need a short biog, this is attached.

Please send me final versions of what goes into the public domain.

Muir

--- On Wed, 2/12/09, Acton Edward Prof (VCO) <E.Acton@uea.ac.uk> wrote:

From: Acton Edward Prof (VCO) <E.Acton@uea.ac.uk>  
Subject: RE: CRU Review at UEA  
To: "ALASTAIRMUIR RUSSELL" [REDACTED]  
Date: Wednesday, 2 December, 2009, 21:38

Dear Muir *[Information exempted pursuant to s.40(2), Freedom of Information Act]*


Following up our conversation while you were in a taxi.

I attach a draft of the announcement we would propose making about you taking on the Independent Review. See what you think, including the efficacy of those final two sentences attributed to you, designed to bring home to the Press that you will immediately need peace and scoping time.

On the points you itemised:

1. Yes it is essential that you have a free hand to draw on the range of expertise you identify as necessary.
2. I think the independence of the Review will be strengthened by us giving you a free hand to recruit that additional expert input. If the names emerge as chosen by us, the whitewash charge could appear. A crisp announcement that you are conducting the Review with a free hand will, I think, underscore your control and independence.
3. Yes, we have very clear advice from a strong range of interests to organise an Independent Review along precisely these lines. Trevor Davies, PVC Research, spoke today to David King and he was most supportive and would be pleased were you to invite him to advise. [REDACTED]

*[Information exempted pursuant to s.40(2), Freedom of Information Act]*

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4. Yes, the 19 February timescale could be tight. We propose to use the words 'by early spring', if that is agreeable. It would be excellent if it turns out you can manage by end-February.
  5. Yes, that number of days' work sounds just the right sort of thing.

As I suggested in my email this morning, might I propose a fee a bit higher, £40k, to complete the report. Plus travel, accommodation and administrative support. We will cover fees charged for the additional expertise you need, and for such non-JEA administrative support as you require.

I believe news that you are taking charge of the Review will inspire the deep confidence required and give the Review unimpeachable authority and independence. Do let me know if there are any other nuances for adjustment. Were you content, the advice to me is that the ideal is for us to announce your name tomorrow, Thursday 3. The fact that UUK meets all day Friday 4 makes that timing particularly salient within the Sector.

With best wishes

Edward

*[Information exempted pursuant to s.40(2), Freedom of Information Act]*

## ***XXX to head the Independent Review into the Climatic Research Unit (CRU)***

Today the University of East Anglia (UEA) announced that XXX would Head the Independent Review into allegations made against the Climatic Research Unit (CRU)

The Independent Review will investigate the key allegations that arose from a series of leaked e-mails from CRU on Wednesday 18 November 2009. The review will:

1. examine both the leaked e-mail exchanges, other relevant e-mail exchanges and any other information held at CRU to determine whether there is any evidence of the manipulation or suppression of data which is at odds with acceptable scientific practice and calls into question any of the research outcomes;
2. review CRU's policies and practices for acquiring, assembling, subjecting to peer review and disseminating data and research findings and their compliance or otherwise with best scientific practice;
3. review CRU's compliance or otherwise with the University's policies and practices regarding requests under the FOIA and EIR for the release of data;
4. review and make recommendations as to the appropriate management, governance and security structures for CRU which will ensure the security, integrity and release of the data it holds.

XXX will have the discretion to amend or add to the terms of reference if he feels necessary; devise his own methods of working and call on appropriate expertise in order to investigate the allegations fully.

The University has asked for the Review to be completed by Spring 2010 and this will be made public along with UEA's response.

Announcing the Independent Review, Professor Edward Acton, Vice-Chancellor said:

"The reputation and integrity of UEA is of the upmost importance to us all. We want these allegations about CRU to be examined fully and independently. That is why I am delighted that XXX has agreed to lead the Independent Review and he will have my, and the rest of University's full support. Whatever the outcome of the Review, I will not hesitate to act on its recommendations."

XXXX said:

"I agreed very willingly to am honoured to be asked by Professor Acton's request to undertake this Independent Review. Given the nature of the allegations it is only-right that someone who has no links to either the University or the Climate Science community looks at the evidence and makes recommendations based on what they find. My The first task is to scope out the project, gather the information I need and source the additional any-expertise that will may-be required in order to fully-investigate fully the allegations that have been made. Once this has happened I will be in a position to confirm timescales for publishing the review."

**Notes to Editors:**

1. On Wednesday 18 November, a substantial file, including over 1000 emails either sent from or sent to members of the Climatic Research Unit ("CRU") at the University of East Anglia, was downloaded on the RealClimate website, together with meteorological station data used for research by CRU into the rate of the earth's warming, particularly over the past 150 years and other material.
2. A police investigation is currently underway into the source of the theft.
3. Professor Jones announced on 1<sup>st</sup> December that he will stand aside as Director until the completion of the Independent Review to ensure that CRU can continue to operate normally and the Independent Review can conduct its work into the allegations. Professor Peter Liss, FRS, CBE is now the Acting Director.
4. The Review will be provided with appropriate administrative support and have access to<sub>1</sub> and the full collaboration<sub>1</sub> of university staff.

**SIR MUIR RUSSELL KCB FRSE** was Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Glasgow from 2003 to 2009. During that period he was Convener of Universities Scotland, a member of the Universities UK Main Board, a Trustee of the Universities Superannuation Scheme, and a member of the UCAS Board.

Sir Muir graduated from the University of Glasgow in 1970 with a First in Natural Philosophy (Physics) and took up a career in the civil service, assigned to the Scottish Office. His civil service career included a period in Whitehall as Head of the Home Affairs Secretariat of the Cabinet Office (1990-92). He was appointed Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Office in 1998, following open competition, and was the first Permanent Secretary to the Scottish Executive following the establishment of the Scottish Parliament in 1999

Sir Muir was awarded the KCB in 2001, and became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 2000. He has honorary degrees from the Universities of Strathclyde, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Sir Muir currently chairs the Judicial Appointments Board for Scotland. He is also a Trustee of the Glasgow School of Art, a Member of the Board of the Moredun Research Institute, and the Chairman of the Dunedin Concert Trust.

December 2009