



# AMERICAN POLYGRAPH ASSOCIATION

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June 9, 2006

George W. Maschke  
Hart Nibbrigkade 22  
2597 XV The Hague  
The Netherlands

Dear Mr. Maschke:

We are in receipt of your letter requesting a grievance investigation against Edward Gelb. In that letter, you state your belief that Mr. Gelb is falsely holding himself out as having earned a Ph.D from an accredited university or institution, and request that this matter be investigated.<sup>1</sup>

Please be advised that the APA has adopted a resolution for dealing with problems of this sort:

Be it resolved that, the American Polygraph Association does not endorse or recognize diplomas or degrees from post secondary courses of education not accredited by an accrediting body routinely accepted within the academic community or appropriate government entity at the time of the award.

The APA will not accept advertisements, publications or directory listings, which include a reference or title representing a diploma or degree from a post secondary course of education not so accredited.

The APA understands that in some cases, such as countries which do not have accrediting organizations, this position may be overly restrictive. Accordingly, a member may seek exception from this position by presentation to the APA Board of Directors, evidence supporting completion of academic achievement supporting the award of such diploma or degree that would be routinely accepted within the academic community.

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<sup>1</sup> Your reputation as an opponent to polygraph is, of course, well known and, as such, in applying to an organization that promotes the science and profession of polygraph your agenda is likely personal and not an effort to further professionalism within the organization. Nevertheless, I address the issue raised in your grievance.

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The APA Board of Directors directs that should there be a question of whether a reference to a title or degree, a member may be required to produce evidence that their diploma or degree meets the requirements of this resolution before acceptance of any advertisement, publication or directory listing which includes a reference to such diploma or degree.

Consistent with the above resolution, the APA has requested that Mr. Gelb provide information on whether his Ph.D. meets the requirements of this resolution. If not, the APA will not list Mr. Gelb by his Ph.D nor will it accept an advertisement or item for publication in any of its publications which references Mr. Gelb by his Ph.D. This step is in no way disciplinary nor intended to discredit Mr. Gelb, who has provided many years of dedicated service to the American Polygraph Association and the polygraph profession.

Beyond these measures, the APA does not attempt nor does it presume to govern the designation of titles or degrees conferred upon its members. No further action will be taken as to your grievance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gordon Vaughan" followed by a stylized flourish.

Gordon L. Vaughan  
General Counsel  
American Polygraph Association

cc: Terrence V. O'Malley, President  
Donald Weinstein, Ethics and Grievance Chair  
Milton O. Webb, Jr., Executive Director  
John E. Consigli, Chairman