

# UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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February 3, 2010

Dr. Roland Silva Deshamanya, Chancellor, University of Moratuwa  
Professor Malik Ranasinghe, Vice-Chancellor, University of Moratuwa  
Professor N.D. Gunawardena, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Moratuwa  
Professor A.K.W. Jayawardane, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of Moratuwa

Dear Sirs

It is, regrettably, my duty to inform you that one of your faculty members, Mr. T.M.J.A. Cooray --- who, according to your web site, is currently serving as the Head of the Mathematics Department --- is a serial plagiarist.

In 2006, Mr. Cooray published a book, entitled "Complex Analysis with Vector Calculus", with Alpha Science International and Narosa Publishing House. The book has been sold throughout the world. It recently came to my attention that much of this book was plagiarized verbatim from lecture notes of myself and Prof. George Cain of Georgia Tech that are freely available on the internet, without any attempt by Mr. Cooray to contact either of us for permission or to acknowledge the source of his material. This is an unacceptable breach of professional ethics and scholarship, and violates the copyright both of us hold on our work.

I learned about Mr. Cooray's plagiarism in November, 2009. In response, I hired intellectual property lawyers in London, and, following our full and unambiguous documentation of this charge, the publishers have written the attached letter acknowledging the plagiarism and agreeing to cease sales of the book and destroy all copies. Prof. Cain is currently pursuing his own action in this regards. If you are in need of further documentation to support these charges, I will be happy to provide it.

In addition, Prof. William Trench of Trinity University in Texas has already written to Prof. Jayawardane documenting a further incidence of plagiarism by Mr. Cooray. Prof. Trench would be happy to supply all of you with a copy of this correspondence that contains the details of Mr. Cooray's plagiarism of material from his textbook on Real Analysis for a book Mr. Cooray was also planning to publish, without Prof. Trench's permission, with Alpha Science and Narosa.

I am well aware that accusations of plagiarism are extremely serious charges, and must be well documented. In this case, the evidence is so overwhelming that the publisher agreed to a settlement immediately after my lawyers contacted them, and before it went to court. Plagiarism is the most serious violation of professional and academic integrity, and viewed with severity by all reputable academic institutions throughout the world, as well as in the courts of most countries. In view of Mr. Cooray's inexcusable and unethical actions, I intend to publicize this incident in as many international venues as possible, including the Association of Commonwealth Universities, and possibly pursue legal remedies.

While I cannot tell your University administration how to handle such a case, I am expecting that you will treat these charges with the seriousness that they deserve. I will be interested in your subsequent course of action, and look forward to your reply to this email.

Sincerely yours



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Head of Department

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