

William G. Parker
520 E. Florida Street
Holbrook, AZ 86025

Mr. Stuart Ashman
New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs
407 Galisteo St.
Santa Fe, NM 87501

November 7, 2007

Dear Mr. Ashman,

I appreciate your recent correspondence addressing concerns of unethical publishing behavior on the part of employees of the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. In your correspondence you state that you reread my allegations and associated documentation and enlisted the help of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees to review the matter, which met on September 28th, examined all of the evidence, and concluded that no further action is required.

What your letter did not state is whether the evidence which I provided demonstrated unethical behavior on the part of these employees. I would appreciate it if you could provide documentation refuting my allegations and demonstrating why you believe that the actions I detail in my letters do not represent academic dishonesty on the part of Drs. Lucas and Hunt. In short, what is your evidence that these individuals did not plagiarize my work? I cannot be satisfied in this matter until I receive a clear and convincing explanation of how my allegations are in error or an explanation of what policies have been put in place to ensure that similar situations do not arise in the future. Simply stating that it has been determined that no further action is necessary does not convince me that this situation has been appropriately handled by your office, especially given the recent support I have received from the vertebrate paleontology community regarding this matter.

Furthermore, you mentioned in your first letter that Drs. Lucas and Hunt “adhered to the publishing practices and policies of the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science”. In my reply I requested a copy of the publishing policies for that bulletin series, which I never received. Therefore, I am repeating my request for a copy of these policies.

Sincerely,

William Parker

cc: James Jimenez, Chief of Staff
Office of the Governor