

Chapman, Tony

From: Chapman, Tony
Sent: 06 September 2007 09:23
To: Robertson, Elizabeth
Cc: Alexander, Karen; Barnes, Liz; Doyle, Barry
Subject: Patrick Holford

Dear Elizabeth,

As advised, I have spoken to Patrick Holford just now about the usage of his visiting professor title.

Patrick has written me a letter which I have not yet seen to outline his understanding of the situation – I expect to receive this in the next few days and will forward it to Professor Henderson, Professor Hardcastle, yourself and Dean of School.

In short, Patrick states that he is comfortable with referring to his relationship with the School as advised, but recognises that the press are likely to truncate this in stories and he has no control over this.

Patrick does not intend routinely to use the title 'professor', but will do so in the context of press releases as we have advised.

We had a discussion about areas of expertise and Patrick has agreed not to refer to his position using the terms 'mental health' or 'nutrition'. But will say that he is working with our 'psychologists'.

Patrick wanted to discuss the situation a little further. To help him understand why this is our preferred option, I explained that the use of the terms nutrition and mental health caused potential confusion, externally, about the different research activities and activities in the School of Health and Social Care and in our own School. I made this point in the context of research territories rather than alluding to any criticism which may or may not have been made about his approach.

I hope this helps. I'm afraid that I am completely tied up again today with my Japanese delegation (from 9.30) and will not be able to discuss. Tomorrow I am at an event in Newcastle, but will listen to mobile messages in free times at the event and call you back if you want me to.

Tony