

From: Jeff Hearn

Sent: 18 March 2021 16:44

To: Nishan Canagarajah <vc@leicester.ac.uk>; shapingforexcellence@leicester.ac.uk
<shapingforexcellence@leicester.ac.uk>

Subject: Re: Leicester: reputation Dear Nishan and the “Shaping for Excellence” Committee,

I have been reading with more and more concern reports from what is happening at Leicester.

I can hardly believe the totally unscholarly characterisations of “CMS” and “PE” that are being reported and I assume are being proposed by some persons. These are clearly written by some persons who do not have a scholarly interest and have not done their homework properly. I would expect a far high(er) level of accuracy and indeed scholarship from your university; this is lacking at the moment. I take one example that: CMS draws on ‘post-structuralism, post-modernism, anarchism and autonomism’. I wondered if this was serious and if the persons who wrote that have actually been to a CMS conference, such as the CMS Division of one of the various Academies of Management (US, European, Nordic)? I also wonder if the persons actually know what, for example, post-structuralism means *in its very diverse (and sometimes and paradoxically rather structuralist) forms*.

I have been shocked further by the treatment of Professor Gibson Burrell and his highly esteemed colleagues. Professor Burrell is one of the most serious, most respected and most theoretically advanced scholars in the field of Organisation Studies and Organisation Theory, and indeed his work has a huge impact in the Social Sciences well beyond Organisation Studies and Organisation Theory.

I trust Leicester will remain a respected university, as sadly the recent reports appear to place that reputation in some question. I really hope that Leicester’s academic reputation will not wither.

Yours sincerely, Jeff
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