

---

From: Holbrook, Karen  
Sent: Sunday, December 05, 2010 12:13 PM  
To: Mercurio, Dianne F.  
Subject: Re: Update

Dear Dianne - I am not ignoring you as it may seem. There are too many voices in this conversation and not all of them talking together, meaning many renditions of the same story, and little clarity of what is actually true. I feel very much caught in the middle as my first conversation with [REDACTED] was without any knowledge of the background information that seems to be highly detailed in some respects and less clear (to me) in others. I need to be very clear about the institutional position before I speak with [REDACTED] again, and perhaps before you and I confer as well. I am sure you understand this position.

Thank you for the connection again and best regards for the holidays if we do not speak before they are upon us.

Karen

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 1, 2010, at 4:16 PM, "Mercurio, Dianne F." <[Dianne.Mercurio@ic.fbi.gov](mailto:Dianne.Mercurio@ic.fbi.gov)> wrote:

Hello Dr. Holbrook,

I hope this finds you healthy and full after the Thanksgiving holiday! I wanted to give you an update to recent (confusing) events so you could read at your convenience.

I understood the "radio silence" with respect to [REDACTED], and had hoped we could reconnect prior to [REDACTED] trip to China this Friday. A letter stating he would report to your supervision was all that was needed to move forward on the [REDACTED]

I was quite surprised to hear from Dr. Genshaft that [REDACTED] was "up to [REDACTED] old tricks" and had bad mouthed USF, allegedly stating [REDACTED] would convince [REDACTED] to withdraw their financial support of the [REDACTED] (She was returning a call to me from the previous week when you were traveling, as [REDACTED] needed to submit [REDACTED] China itinerary.) Dr. Genshaft was understandably upset.

I obviously set a meeting with [REDACTED] created a story to protect Dr. Genshaft's source, and asked [REDACTED] about it. [REDACTED] denied saying it, and immediately explained that the end of the [REDACTED] would render [REDACTED] useless, as any expansion must first go through the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] also explained that the [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. I do not believe [REDACTED] is "up to [REDACTED] old tricks".

[REDACTED] understands that it is not just [REDACTED] credibility at stake, but mine as well, and I have told [REDACTED] that any negative acts on [REDACTED] part towards USF or myself will result in a strong reaction from my office. As [REDACTED] never met with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] explanation is that [REDACTED] may have said things to [REDACTED] in an angry response to USF's [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] has "invoked" [REDACTED] name in the past.

I would submit that these are not current (or accurate) issues, and find the timing and appropriateness of any such discussions as highly curious. I would be very interested to know how an alleged event from [REDACTED], and alleged negative comments by [REDACTED] came up in discussions with [REDACTED]?? On the heels of a [REDACTED]?? In meetings in which [REDACTED] was expressly not allowed to attend??

Dr. Genshaft also mentioned that "no one else" has heard of this [REDACTED]. Considering the lengths to which [REDACTED] has been isolated, by USF administration, from the entirety of the [REDACTED]

[redacted] and all of its functions, this is not unusual to me. I would be happy to have [redacted] give you [redacted] contact information at [redacted]. In fact, [redacted] was hoping to personally introduce you to [redacted] in the near future. There is a pending reorganization at [redacted] and [redacted] wanted you to have a firm commitment from [redacted] through [redacted] contact, so that you are the one holding the cards.

If you are no longer interested in the [redacted], I understand. However, I wanted you, again, to have the other side of the story. Should you still have interest, [redacted] and would just need a letter stating [redacted] was under your supervision. [redacted] also recently mentioned the possibility of exploring a USF branch campus in China, a difficult task for U.S. universities. Of course, it would all hinge on current support from USF, which was promised in several venues this summer.

[redacted] will [redacted], I will reconnect with you in January of 2012. It has been a pleasure, you have a strong, objective measure that has led to many successes. I certainly hope to work with you at some point in the future.

Happy Holidays and a Fabulous 2011,  
Dianne Mercurio  
813.253.1105 (desk)  
813.267.6928 (cell)

(This email is confidential and sensitive in nature. It is for official use only and should not be forwarded.)