

S. Michael Halloran, former Chair H&SS/LL&C, recommended to Gary Judd, former Graduate Dean, that he block the author's third year PhD registration at RPI claiming lack of qualifications for doctoral work. Judd ignored the fact that two years earlier Halloran and his cabal had approved those same credentials and the H&SS dean had granted a faculty position to teach at graduate level. Nothing had changed except that the author had completed most of his doctoral work with an 'A' grade.

Halloran had accepted European academic equivalencies as a basis for a contract for doctoral study in 1985. He knew that a string of educational institutions had reviewed those credentials and accepted them for employment as a professor and that the president of Fitchburg State College had certified them. Halloran had no legitimate reason to question them later; however, he challenged them anyway in an attempt to cover up alleged program fraud by the department.

Halloran convened a secret "disciplinary faculty committee meeting" and denied the author an opportunity to attend or to present a written defense. With this type of meeting, the accused neither knows the names of accusers nor the nature of the charges made against him. He certainly does not receive a copy of the findings. With malice, the practice ranks as criminal because it defrauds the victim by denying services for which he has contracted and paid for in advance.

Star Chamber proceedings were used to enforce royal prerogative in the seventeenth century. Universities now operate "risk management" policies in a similar way. They deny due process of law by using kangaroo courts under the politically correct title of "disciplinary faculty committee meeting". The term "kangaroo court" describes a quasi-legal proceeding characterized by dishonesty or incompetence set up in violation of established law to either delay or deny justice. Participants assume the roles of prosecution, judge, and jury in a kafkaesque manner.

To cover their tracks when the author challenged them about his arbitrary expulsion from the university, Judd and Halloran supplied an obscure accrediting agency with inaccurate and incomplete information, thereby insuring a negative and flawed report to support their illegal act.

Exasperated, the author engaged an Albany, NY law firm. The lawyer insisted upon reevaluation of credentials with an agency recognized by US Department of Education and International Education Research Foundation filed a positive report.

The new evaluation tallied with what the author had originally represented in his application for entry into the doctoral program more than two years earlier. Judd capitulated by reinstating PhD registration.

In the effort to register for continuing PhD study the author incurred \$6,000 in legal fees and lost a semester of PhD research while he reestablished his credentials. He also lost his computer databases. Judd and Halloran neither mitigated the damage nor provided a reason for their actions.

See also: [*Educational Qualifications*]

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