



Dr Hon. Elizabeth QUAT Pui Fan, JP Legco Member  
Room 606, Legislative Council Complex,  
1 Legislative Council Road, Central, Hong Kong  
12<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Dear Dr. Quat,

Our organisation is a locally registered Charity NGO.  
We have received information, some of which is shown below, which queries the validity of your Professional Qualifications; this is of immense public interest and needs clarification. Accordingly we seek the following information from you:

Q Were all your qualifications shown in this link obtained from the Greenwich University in Hilo, Hawaii? [http://www.it20.hk/bio\\_eng/elizabeth\\_quat\\_5.htm](http://www.it20.hk/bio_eng/elizabeth_quat_5.htm)

Qualifications:

1996? Doctor of Philosophy in Management (Ph.D.), Greenwich University

1994? Master's Degree in Business Administration (M.B.A.), Greenwich University

1993? Degree of Bachelor in Business Administration (B.B.A.), Greenwich University

Q We believe that Greenwich University was never fully accredited by the USA or any other educational authority? <http://archives.starbulletin.com/97/03/25/news/story3.html>

Q Did you at any time reside in Hawaii or you took correspondence distance learning degrees with that Greenwich Hilo, University?

Q What was the title of your PHD Thesis?

Q What Greenwich University professor(s) (advise their names/ contacts) were your Thesis advisor(s) and when?

Q Where and before whom / what peer review process did you defend your PHD thesis?

Q Is your Thesis online? We hereby make a formal request for a copy or online link of your Thesis to publish on our website and vindicate the hearsay received.

Yours sincerely,

*James Middleton*

Chairman

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## E. Quat's degrees don't equate

11th April 2014 <https://webb-site.com/articles/quat.asp>

It's time to take down another legislator for overstating their qualifications. Readers may recall that in 2005, Webb-site asked LegCo's Committee on Member's Interests to investigate the degree-mill qualifications of "Dr" [Philip Wong Yu-hong](#). They decided that the matter was outside their jurisdiction, and that the Advisory Guidelines on Matters of Ethics are unenforceable. However, as a result of our complaint, the Committee did eventually amend the guidelines in 2005, so that the current version states:

"A Member should ensure that the personal information (e.g. qualifications) he provides to the Council (including the Legislative Council Secretariat) is correct and true."

Now, fast forward to 2014, and "Dr" The Honourable [Elizabeth Quat Pui Fan](#), JP of the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment and Progress of HK, claims on her [LegCo biography page](#) to be a "Doctor of Philosophy (Management)". In biographies elsewhere on the internet, in her election biography for the Chief Executive Election Committee, she also claimed a "BBA and MBA in Marketing". But nowhere could we find a statement of where these qualifications were obtained. So Webb-site wrote to her office, and her assistant replied that the degrees were:

- 1993 Bachelor in Business Administration (Greenwich University, Hawaii)
- 1994 Master of Business Administration (Greenwich University, Hawaii)
- 1996 Doctor of Philosophy, Management (Greenwich University, Hawaii)

Ah yes, Greenwich University, Hawaii. We can tell you a thing or two about that. In no way is it related to the legitimate University of Greenwich (formerly Thames Polytechnic) in England. Greenwich University, Inc. (**GUI**) was incorporated in Hawaii on 2-Feb-1990. **It never received any accreditation from an accreditation body recognised by the US Department of Education. That makes it a degree mill by our measure.** Its officers included Marjorie Fishman, Pauline Butler and one "John Walsh of Brannagh" (**John Walsh**). It operated out of [this bungalow](#) at 103 Kapiolani Street, Hilo, Hawaii, then home of Douglass L Capogrossi, President of Greenwich University (yes, that's Douglass with two esses).



**Greenwich University, Hawaii**

Quite pretty, we are sure you will agree - but it doesn't look like the head office of a university, distance-learning or otherwise. Another entity with the same officers at the same address was United Pacific Corporation (**UPC**), incorporated on 2-Apr-1990, 2 months after GUI. UPC had multiple trade

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names including United Pacific University, Sterling School of Business, Pacific International University, Greenwich University Centre for European Studies (from 22-Oct-1991) and "Greenwich University" (from 22-Jul-2003), all of which have expired. The last filings for both GUI and UPC were in 2003 and they were involuntarily dissolved after 3 years of delinquency.

By the way, on 4-Mar-2014 we asked Ms Quat's office for the title of, and a copy of, her doctoral thesis, or where one could be found. Nothing has been forthcoming.

### **Norfolk Island**

After Ms Quat obtained her "degrees" from Hawaii, in 1998 Greenwich University moved to Norfolk Island, an external territory in the Commonwealth of Australia, which since 1979 had been allowed a higher degree of autonomy, so to speak. In the 2011 census, the island had a population of 2302 people, of whom 78% were residents. Many can trace their heritage to mutineers of The Bounty, whose descendants settled from Pitcairn to Norfolk Island in 1856. Prior to that it had been a penal colony.

According to his own biographies on Linked In and the Victorian Bar of Australia, John Walsh has been "Chancellor Emeritus" of Greenwich University since 1989 and President of Norfolk Island Bar Association since 1994. We have been unable to locate any other members of that association, nor a web site for it. John Walsh has also been appointed to various Norfolk Island positions, including as a senior member of the Administrative Review Tribunal and as deputy chairman of the Gaming Authority. In 2004 elections he was nominated and ran unsuccessfully for the 9-member Norfolk Legislative Assembly. He also calls himself the "Duke de Ronceray Sir John Francis Patrick Cyril Colclough Walsh of Brannagh" and "Marquis de Segre, Count de Bauge et de Fontevrault, Viscount de Fontevrault, Baron de Beaufort". Honestly, we don't make this stuff up.

As part of the migration from Hawaii to Norfolk Island, a company, Greenwich University Pty Ltd (GUNI), was registered under the Norfolk Island Companies Act. GUNI persuaded the Legislative Assembly to pass the 2-page Education (Greenwich University) Regulations 1998 (GU Regulations), and these were quickly upgraded to the nearly-identical Greenwich University Act 1998 (GU Act), which was assented to by the island's then Administrator, Anthony John Messner, on 9-Dec-1998 pursuant to Section 21 of the Norfolk Island Act 1979. Prior to that, the Hansard records only the briefest discussion, in the assembly on 16-Sep-1998.

There was no academic accreditation process for this enactment, and the external Territories of Australia, including Norfolk Island, were not subject to Australian federal education policy, a loophole that was not rectified until 2002. So GUNI never appeared in the Australian Qualifications Framework register and as such, did not have Australian academic accreditation. On 2-Dec-2002, the Federal Government of Australia enacted the Higher Education Legislation Amendment Act (No. 3) 2002, to regulate the use of the title "university" and the delivery of higher education in the external Territories. This overrode the GU Act, which no longer has any effect, although it remains on the Norfolk Island statute book. As a result, rather than seek to qualify, GUNI shut down.

The Internet Archive contains a copy of the GUNI web site at greenwich.edu on 24-Apr-1999. According to that, "Chancellor" John Walsh states that his Juris Doctor and PhD in International Law were earned at Columbia Pacific University, another defunct entity that operated without USDE-recognised accreditation.



*The GU Regulations and GU Act both mention an earlier entity, the International Institute for Advanced Studies (IIAS). This is a non-profit corporation incorporated in Missouri, USA on 26-Jul-1973 and known until 17-Nov-1978 as "Occidental University of St Louis". The GU Regulations and GU Act provided for GUNI to "undertake on Norfolk Island the administrative and academic functions of" GUI and IIAS.*

*The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (CB) has a list of institutions whose degrees are illegal to use in Texas. Against "Greenwich University" of Hawaii, Norfolk Island and California it notes "No accreditation from a CB recognized accreditor. Closed by Australian Government."*

### ***Akamai University***

*And what about Douglass Capogrossi? He is now President of another institution, Akamai University, incorporated in Hawaii on 30-May-2002, just months after GUNI shut down, with galactic headquarters at 187 Kino'ole Street, Hilo (see it here). Akamai University is not accredited by a body recognised by the US Department of Education. And here they are on YouTube in Penang, Malaysia, at the 2013 "Commencement Ceremony". You can't keep a good man down.*

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<http://www.legco.gov.hk/general/english/members/yr12-16/qe.htm>

Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP

Constituency :

Geographical Constituency – New Territories East

Education and professional qualifications :

Doctor of Philosophy (Management)

Master of Social Science (Marriage and Family Therapy)

Occupation :

Legislative Council Member

Sha Tin District Council member

IT Management

Political affiliation :

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