

Dear Senator Taylor:

I'm contacting you in regards to staff misconduct by officers and administrative persons at Oshkosh Correctional Institution (OSCI).

On 7-5-14, I received , and immediately donated a DVD-ROM with the complete collection of the publisher Nerdy Books in PDF accompanied by a letter granting permission to copy and print. The disk was a gift in support for my efforts to start a STEM studies group at OSCI. Within a few hours the disk was "lost."

On 8-5-14, I received, and donated, 11 DVDs from lynda.com in support of the STEM study group initiative. These were all educational videos, including the "Fundamentals of Photography." The Education Director, David Hines, was contacted while the disks were being processed, and I notified the Main Library a few minutes later. The Library staff went to retrieve the disks about 20 minutes later, but the disks had disappeared and the Property officer claims no knowledge.

There are three possibilities: 1) the officer disposed of the items improperly; 2) a staff person stole the items; 3) the items have been hidden away. In any case a staff person must be lying; which constitutes staff misconduct. It is not reasonable to accept that items were mistakenly disposed of as they were in quite a significantly sized box.

The officer at Property that processed the disks felt he needed to inform me several times that the administration was trying to discourage donations like these educational videos because they were not representative of OSCI. I take that to mean that OSCI's stance is anti-education. The officer was visibly perturbed at having to deal with the disks while searching the box.

To add further context to the situation, I contacted UW-Oshkosh Prof. Jennifer E. Szydlak of Mathematics in mid-June. I inquired about resources the University had that could be made available to OSCI and the possibility to have volunteers to do instruction. Someone in her dept. emailed the warden, Judy Smith. The warden contacted Mr. Hines who confronted me in my supervisor's office with my supervisor present. Mr. Hines wanted to know why I was writing the UW and what a STEM-Project Group was. He went on to inform me that there were rules about solicitation.

When the Nerdy Books DVD showed up, Mr. Hines again accused me of solicitation and laughed at the idea that someone would "just send" me a disk. When I asked what definition he was using for "solicitation," he smirked and walked away.

The Computer Lab has a station with the Ubuntu version of GNU/Linux operating system installed. The computer goes unused by students for lack of interest. I requested to be allowed time to get exposure to the Linux OS while no one else was interested, but was denied because Education cannot allow special privileges. Suggestions that a rotating list to allow everyone the opportunity was met with silence.

NASA publishes a tremendous amount of free information generated by their projects. The data could simply be downloaded to disk and made available on Library workstations: Mr. Hines' reply was that it is not in the interest of OSCI to make the resources available. The same was with Khan Academy's tutoring videos.

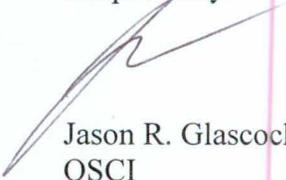
I've requested, and been denied, printed copies of the development guides installed on the Windows workstations. I've offered to build a functional catalog for the library that patrons could use to find desired titles, Mr. Hines continues to ignore the offer. Because the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) system doesn't function due to the time-intensive process of entering requests, I offered to design a system to allow patrons to do

the heavy lifting of entering their own requests into a database that is then used to enter into the WisCat system. This project has also been ignored, and the ILL system continues to wallow.

Combined these demonstrate a culture that seems oppressive to any initiative to cultivate an educative environment. I ask that you call for in investigation into the OSCI culture.

Thank you for your time and consideration into this matter.

Respectfully:



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