

**From:** [Metcalf, F](#)  
**To:** [O'Connor, D](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Rumors regarding LSE Alumnus Tsai Ing-Wen  
**Date:** 19 September 2019 11:46:38

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Hello

Can we discuss?

Cheers

F

Fiona Metcalfe  
X2892  
[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 19 September 2019 11:46  
**To:** Metcalfe, F  
**Subject:** Fwd: Rumors regarding LSE Alumnus Tsai Ing-Wen

Hi Fiona,

I apologize in advance for making a cold call. I am sure you are aware there is a rumor escalating in Taiwan regarding LSE Alumnus Dr. Tsai Ing-Wen's degree. This is resulting in a lot of negative publicity for the school including accusations of a LSE coverup, University of London coverup, LSE selling degrees etc.

I write to you as an LSE Alumnus (MSc 1995, PhD 2009) wishing to establish contact so the that LSE Taiwan Alumni association can make some effort to control the spread of false information, protected the school's brand and reputation. I attach an earlier message to the LSE Alumni Association, and am still awaiting a response from the school. I followed up the mail with a phone call today and was told I can expect a reply by Monday.

As the situation in Taiwan develops rapidly, the failure to make a statement against all these false accusations is having an impact on Alumni and potential students. In brief, I am proposing a social media campaign using the LSE Taiwan Alumni and would like to speak someone in charge of media relations at the school. You can reach me at +31682346000 or we can schedule a conference call at your convenience.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

----- 轉寄的郵件 -----

寄件者: [REDACTED]  
日期: 2019年9月16日 週一, 17:00  
主旨: Rumors regarding LSE Almunus Tsai Ing-Wen  
收件者: <[alumni@lse.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@lse.ac.uk)>

Recently there has been rumors spreading in Taiwanese media regarding LSE Alumnus Tsai Ing-Wen (PhD Law, 1984), currently President of Republic of China (Taiwan). The accusers raised all sorts of invalid questions (partly due to their ignorance of the British education system) regarding her degree and her PhD dissertation. As a LSE alumnus myself (MSc Admis, 1995, PhD 2009) I find little merit in the accusations, and would like to solicit some advise on how to stop the spread of such rumors.

In the era of fake news, it is simply not enough to stand aside and do nothing. The initial response of "not to dignify the rumors with a response" is having an impact not just on President Tsai, but on the reputation of the school and alumni. There are widespread social media reports of people visiting the BL PES to request President Tsai's dissertation (failing because they need a library pass), and media reporters seeking access to President Tsai's student records (with all sort of corresponding misinterpretations of the upgrade process from MPhil to PhD status). Visitors to London are going to the British Library and University of London library to join in the media frenzy. The publicity the school is getting on Taiwanese media is portrayed in a negative light.

It is sad to see such developments and hence a call for coordinated action. I am in contact with the LSE Taiwan Alumni association. A statement from the school or Alumni association would help in providing a authoritative response the rest of the alumni can use to squash this rumor.

There is now a lawsuit In Taiwan against the accusers. While President Tsai is dealing with the accusers in her own way, I do believe there is much we can do as alumni to protect the reputation of the school. I live in the Netherlands and have no political affiliations, and am entirely independent of party politics in Taiwan.

Please contact me at [REDACTED] and let me know who is the appropriate person to handle public relations before the negative publicity spreads any further.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]