

**From:** [O'Connor,D](#)  
**To:** [Wilson,Clive](#)  
**Subject:** RE: A plea for LSE to elaborate  
**Date:** 16 July 2019 11:14:00

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Hi Clive,

I think there can be pretty standard reply to this, with some extra information.

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email which has been passed to me.

As has been highlighted in other correspondence, we have checked our records and both the London School of Economics and Political Science and the University of London confirm that Tsai Ing-Wen was correctly awarded a PhD in Law 1984.

President Tsai Ing-wen recently provided the LSE Library with a facsimile copy of the thesis, 'Unfair trade practices and safeguard actions'. This is now available to view in the LSE Library's reading room.

Tsai Ing-wen is the sole author of the thesis listed on the catalogue. The second name –which was of her PhD supervisor - was briefly added to the catalogue in error and has now been removed. We can confirm he was **not** a co-author of the thesis.

Questions regarding a reproduction of the PhD certificate itself should be directed to the University of London.

Kind regards,

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**From:** Directorate  
**Sent:** 16 July 2019 10:53  
**To:** Wilson,Clive <CLIVE.Wilson@lse.ac.uk>  
**Cc:** O'Connor,D <D.O'Connor@lse.ac.uk>  
**Subject:** FW: A plea for LSE to elaborate

Dear Clive,

I think you are the right person to send the below email to. I am copying Danny O'Connor for information.

Best regards,  
Kinga

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15 July 2019 18:49

**To:** Directorate <[Directorate@lse.ac.uk](mailto:Directorate@lse.ac.uk)>

**Subject:** A plea for LSE to elaborate

Dear Director Minouche:

Facing the gigantic pressure from the Taiwanese electorate, Dr. Tsai Ing-wen at last had to yield and provided as late as this year a copy of her 1984 PhD. thesis to the LSE Library to keep in records. The record of this replacement copy's co-authorship partially explains my earlier questioning of her English writing competence—wasn't high enough to afford a PhD thesis, judged from an English speech transcript she provided to the Center for Strategic and International Studies in 2016.

With the advent of the attached page,

I hereby write to make a plea for LSE to elaborate on the following issues:

1. Is it allowed or not allowed for two LSE PhD students to co-author a PhD thesis?
2. If the answer is negative, then the rest of the questions can be dropped. If, however, the answer is positive, will each of the two students be awarded a doctorate degree?
3. If the answer is negative, then the rest of the questions can be dropped. If, however, the answer is positive, then why wouldn't Mr. Elliott be called Dr. Elliott all his life before he passed away in 2016 while Ms. Tsai has been enjoying the bright tile of doctor?
4. Does the fact that Mr. Elliott was never called Dr. Elliott imply that he was never awarded a PhD? If Mr. Elliott was never awarded a PhD with the co-authored thesis, why was Ms. Tsai and why was her degree claimed to be "awarded correctly"?
5. On July 10 Dr. Tsai showed to the public her replacement degree certificate which carries not only a "different" wording but also "different" signature, while the Head of the Diploma Production Office states that "Replacement certificates..... will of course still be identical to the original document— same wording, same signature." Does the black-and-white discrepancy imply that Dr. Tsai's replacement certificate might be "fake"?
6. Why would a worldwide famous education institute like TSE allow a PhD thesis to be missing for 35 years without requesting the author to re-submit a copy and have to wait for the Taiwanese electorate uproar over the issue to demand an answer?
7. Why would Dr. Shih Fang-long, the Co-director of TSE's Taiwan Research Program, continue to blame the repeated calls for an answer by the Taiwanese electorate, including many highly esteemed professors, and brazenly refused to provide a once-and-for-all answer to the thesis mystery to end everyone's agony? What is to hide?
8. Would TSE look into the wording and signature discrepancies

described in issue 5 and what would TSE do should the publicly shown PhD certificate prove to be “fake”?

Thank you very much for the patience to read this long email; your answer to any of these eight issues would be highly appreciative to the electorate of the 2020 Taiwanese presidential election. Since Ms. Tsai has been formally nominated a candidate in the election, the Taiwanese electorate’s right to know is well justified. Any attempt to lead this issue into a personal privacy should be bluntly rebutted.

Sincerely yours,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.