

**William Cervone**

**From:** Charlie Grapski [grapski@grapski.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 03, 2008 4:35 PM  
**To:** anne.kress@sfcc.edu; Beck, Alan; Jackson Sasser; Cindy Swirko; Fellows, Mike; Hill, Debra; LeFiles, Bob; mjackson@alachuasheriff.org; rdupont@highspringsherald.com; Ron Cunningham; Sadie Darnell; Weygant, Cindy; William Cervone; brian.fox@sfcc.edu; carole.windsor@sfcc.edu; curtis.jefferson@sfcc.edu; ed.bonahue@sfcc.edu; jim.mcmullen@santafe.cc.fl.us; john.cowart@sfcc.edu; lela.elmore@sfcc.edu; nacira.tache@sfcc.edu; richard.hord@sfcc.edu; sture.edvardsson@sfcc.edu  
**Cc:** sgsenate@sfcc.edu; alachuagreen@windstream.net; dswerdlow@alligator.org; ksanders@alligator.org  
**Subject:** Proof Doc. #41 - Criminal and Academic Fraud - Transcript Mountain State University Vers. 2 - Master in Interdisciplinary Studies  
**Attachments:** Proof.41.Transc.MSU.2.pdf

**Proof Document #41 – Criminal Fraud and Academic Dishonesty of Clovis Watson:****Resume: Mountain State University version 2**

The following document was obtained through Florida's Public Records Law from Santa Fe Community College and constitutes one of two versions of his official transcript from Mountain State University in West Virginia. This version was prepared by Mountain State on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

It differs with version 1 only in its claim for the list of advisors for Mr. Watson's degree. It continues to maintain that the degree was awarded with the title Master of Interdisciplinary Study and in this same field and does not indicate that this is an MPA (Master of Public Administration), its equivalent, or indeed does it make a single mention of the phrase "Public Administration." It continues to maintain the course titles as they appear in the 2004 version.

Evidence has shown that Watson has claimed that he was awarded the degree and title of Master of Public Administration (MPA). This document proves, beyond question, that this claim was false as Watson has claimed that this title and degree were awarded to him by Mountain State University. Mountain State University is not credentialed to teach or award the MPA and does not offer such a degree or any degree in the field of Public Administration.

Watson earned a degree from Mountain State University in Beckley, West Virginia via an "online" program of study on May 11, 2004. The degree and title awarded to Watson are clearly indicated on the transcripts as being that of a Master of Interdisciplinary Studies ("MASTER OF SCIENCE INT ST") and his major is clearly indicated as being that of "Interdisciplinary Studies." For degree information see: <http://www.mountainstate.edu/majors/whystudy/gids/default.aspx>

This degree does not qualify Watson to teach or to teach Political Science courses at Santa Fe Community College or elsewhere. It is not a Master of Public Administration nor its equivalent. As an "online Masters" degree it is not the equivalent of a Masters degree as is required, minimally, to teach at Santa Fe Community College for it does not entail the equivalent of a Masters education traditionally associated with *preparation and qualification* to teach in higher education. Watson furthermore received no credits from this institution that are transferable or equivalent to graduate courses in Political Science – 18 of which are minimally required (in addition to the possession of a "Masters degree" of the type associated with preparation and qualification to teach) for Watson to teach courses in Political Science at Santa Fe Community College.

Watson's lack of credentials or qualifications to teach courses in Political Science is exacerbated by the fact that State Universities in the State of Florida, including the University of Florida, are bound by law to *accept* college transfer credits for the courses Watson has been erroneously certified to teach at SFCC under the assumption that SFCC has fulfilled its obligation to hire only qualified faculty and to teach the *equivalent* of the courses as offered as the Baccalaureate awarding institutions.

Further review of the transcript, in both versions, will furthermore reveal that the degree itself is highly questionable as is the claims of Mr. Watson to have personally done the academic work necessary to earn the degree. Of note are the following:

- 1) There is no reference to the degree or title MPA or Master of Public Administration.
- 2) There is not a single reference to the phrase "Public Administration."
- 3) The only significant difference between the two versions are the list of "advisors" for Watson's program. In this instance the advisor claimed to be associated with the degree is "Ms. Dinah Lynn Rock."
- 4) Watson earned the entirety of his credits for this degree, with the exception of his "Perspective," – and thus all *course* credits for actual content based learning – in a *single semester* (Fall 2003).
- 5) Watson allegedly earned 28 graduate credits in a single semester while also being full-time employed as the City Manager of Alachua, the City Clerk of Alachua, and (although later proven to have been in violation of Florida's Constitutional prohibition against Dual-Office Holding) as a sworn police officer acting also as the City's Police Commissioner. A normal graduate full-time course load at an institution such as the University of Florida is 9 graduate credits a semester.
- 6) Watson's alleged content based courses, with one exception, are all the *same course* indicated by the *same course number* (GIDS – (General Interdisciplinary Studies) 580.
- 7) GIDS 580 is a *generic* course number at Mountain State University for "self-designed" courses.
- 8) With the exception of GIDS 501, in "Methodology," Watson's entire curriculum for this degree constituted "self-designed" courses.
- 9) GIDS 501, in "Methodology," furthermore does not constitute an actual content-based course in this curriculum but is instead is awarded for Watson proposing and having accepted a "degree plan" containing the courses to be taken and subjects to be learned in the "Content Phase" of the degree. There is no course content associated with this degree, the grade awarded, or the credits awarded. See: <http://www.mountainstate.edu/majors/whystudy/gids/default.aspx#GIDSPHASE1>
- 10) The courses referred to as GIDS 580 appear to be, and there is evidence to suggest, credits awarded by Watson submitting the work of the City of Alachua, its staff, its committees, and its Commission *as if* it were his own work.
- 11) The course titles themselves call into question both the value and merits of the degree and the quality of the awarding institution.
- 12) One course awarded 3 graduate credits for an A to Watson was in "Statistical Analysis." This is a meaningless title as there is no such word in the English language as "statetical."
- 13) One course awarded 4 graduate credits for an A to Watson was in "Capitol Improvements." At first glance this might seem like an appropriate course as "capital improvements" are an area relevant to municipal government. However the course title "Capitol" is more appropriate for a course in groundskeeping or architecture and not in Public Administration as the word "capitol," as distinct from "capital," refers to a *building* and not to the concept of material wealth.
- 14) Two courses are awarded for 5 credits each and an A in courses which begin their title with the word "Citys" ["Citys Land Development Regulations" and "Citys Comprehensive Plan"]. Normally courses in this type of subject area would not include a *qualifying* term such as this and would be entitled simply (to refer to the *general* scope of the course) "Land Development Regulations" or "Comprehensive Planning." In this case, however, the use of the word "Citys" is dually inappropriate. If a word were to be used a more appropriate word would be "municipal" as in "Municipal Land Development Regulations." In this case, however, the use of the word "Citys" indicates the plural of "city" and the proper word for this would be "Cities" as in "Cities Land Development Regulations." Alternatively the use of the word "City's" (possessive) could be applied and the error could be the failure to indicate the possessive with an apostrophe. However this would suggest (and indeed does suggest) what is

- mentioned above – that the credits were awarded to Watson for the City of Alachua’s Land Development Regulations and its Comprehensive Plan. These items were not the product of Watson’s work but that of the City, its staff, its committees, and its Commission and much of the work was done for these items before Watson was ever employed as City Manager.
- 15) The final course, awarding 6 credits and an A, is in “Budget Proposal.” Here we do not find, as in the above, the qualifying term “City” but it appears again that Watson was given graduate course credit for presenting the City of Alachua’s Budget Proposal as if it were his own work.
  - 16) Watson’s second semester (Spring 2004) includes solely his submission and acceptance, for a total of 8 graduate credits, what is referred to as a “Perspective.” Watson and Mountain State University indicate that Watson received credit for this phase of his degree by submitting a document entitled a “Master Plan” for Alachua. This is another document which was prepared by the City, its staff, committees, and its Commission and was not authored by Watson. This document constitutes a public record yet Watson and the City have refused to release this document under Florida’s Public Records Law. See [http://www.mountainstate.edu/majors/graduate\\_studies/studentspotlight.aspx](http://www.mountainstate.edu/majors/graduate_studies/studentspotlight.aspx)
  - 17) Watson readily admits in his “student spotlight” at Mountain State University that his degree was awarded by “get[ting] credit towards my degree for the projects that I was working on for the City of Alachua.” (See link above). All such work constitutes a public record and is required by law to be maintained by the City and provided upon request.
  - 18) This degree was paid for by the City of Alachua.

.-\*\*\* Message Scanned by Alachua County McAfee Webshield Appliance \*\*\*-.

Name: *Chris Watson*  
 Address:  
 SACRILEE COMMUNITY CENTER  
 731A COLG DIECKM  
 3026 NW 83RD STREET  
 GAINESVILLE, FL 32605  
 ID: 29250  
 SSN:

GRADUATE STUDIES Division

Advisors : Ms. Dnah Lynn Reck

Course Number	Title	CR Type	Grade	Hrs Att	Hrs Ern	Hrs Gpa	Qual Pts	GPA
<b>2003-04 FALL</b>								
5100 -501	Methodology	CR	A	3.00	3.00	3.00	12.00	
5105 -500	Statistical Analysis	CR	A	4.00	4.00	4.00	16.00	
5125 -580	Capitol Improvements	CR	A	5.00	5.00	5.00	20.00	
5128 -580	Citys Land Development Reg	CR	A	5.00	5.00	5.00	20.00	
5138 -580	Citys Comprehensive Plan	CR	A	5.00	5.00	5.00	20.00	
5139 -580	Budget Proposal	CR	A	5.00	5.00	5.00	24.00	
<b>2003-04 SPRING</b>								
5105 -580	Perspective	CR	A	6.00	6.00	6.00	24.00	
<b>Local Career Totals:</b>				<b>36.00</b>	<b>36.00</b>	<b>36.00</b>	<b>144.00</b>	<b>4.0000</b>

Degree Information :

(1) MASTER OF SCIENCE IN "ST" Date Conferred : 05/14, 2004

Majors(s)

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES