



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE  
GOVERNOR

STEPHEN L. BOWEN  
COMMISSIONER

December 6, 2012

Mr. Glenn Baxter  
310 Woodland Camp Road  
Belgrade, Maine 04917

Dear Mr. Baxter:

The Maine Department of Education, as well as certain members of the Maine State Board of Education, have recently received inquiries concerning the State approval status of an entity called the *Physics University*. From information available on the internet it appears that *Physics University* is either a standalone entity or a subset of another entity identified as being the *Belgrade Lakes Institute for Advanced Research* which you are reported to represent as Executive Director. The address given for both is 310 Woodland Camp Road, Belgrade, Maine 04917.

The *Physics University* website makes the following offer:

**"Get your Diploma in Advanced Physics via on line study and telephone conference calls from Physics University. Admission is from open to selective, depending on your level of participation. Admission to conference calls is very selective. Tuition ranges from free to a semester fee for actively participating students. Contact us for more information regarding admission requirements and tuition.**

**The instruction consists of listening to mp3 physics discussions, answering questions after listening, reading assignments, quizzes, exams, conference call participation, writing of papers for publication in the Scientific Journal (See [www.k1man.com/p](http://www.k1man.com/p)), [www.vixra.org](http://www.vixra.org), and video teleconference presentations plus optional appearance(s) on our worldwide short wave radio talk show".**

Maine Revised Statute Title 20-A, Chapter 409: DEGREE-GRANTING INSTITUTIONS, is very specific (see attached) as to use of the term "community college," "college" or "university". 20-A, §10703 - Temporary Approval to Use the Name "Community College," "College" Or "University" reads as follows:

**"The state board may grant an applicant a certificate of temporary approval, permitting use of the term "community college," "college" or "university" in its name until the earlier of:**

- A. The expiration of the academic year; or**
- B. The applicant is authorized by the Legislature to grant degrees . . ."**

In another section of statute, 20-A, §10704 – Initial Authority to Confer Certain Degrees, the following is stated:

**"An educational institution may confer certain degrees if it has been granted initial authority under an Act of the Legislature".**

Further, 20-A, §20-A §10709 – Penalties, reads as follows:

**"Any educational institution conferring degrees within the State or offering courses or programs within the State that carry academic credit without being authorized or approved to do so in accordance with this chapter is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000, payable to the State, to be recovered in a civil action".**

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From the websites [www.k1man.com/physicsuniversity](http://www.k1man.com/physicsuniversity) and [physicsuniversity@k1man.com](mailto:physicsuniversity@k1man.com) an offer has been clearly made to the public-at-large that *Physics University*, located at 310 Woodland Camp Road, Belgrade, Maine 04917 is, or intends to be, "conferring degrees within the State or offering courses or programs within the State that carry academic credit without being authorized or approved to do so. . ."

Please be advised that: 1) without specific authorization to do so by an act of the Maine Legislature the continued use of the term "university" must cease immediately; and 2) the conferring of degrees or the offering of courses or programs within the State of Maine leading to academic credit is prohibited and subject to a civil penalty.

To resolve this matter, a letter of assurance is required from you to the Commissioner of Education in which you affirm that the term "university"; the offering of courses or programs for academic credit; and the website in which such wording presently occurs have been removed and that they will not be reactivated in the future. Your letter of assurance needs to be directed to my attention, Maine Department of Education, #23 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333, for receipt no later than 4:00pm on Wednesday, December 13, 2012.

Sincerely,



Stephen L. Bowen  
Commissioner of Education

Enclosure – MRSA Title 20-A, Chapter 409