

December 9, 2023

The Board of Directors  
The TASIS Foundation and TASIS Switzerland  
Via Collina d'Oro 15,  
6926 Montagnola, Switzerland

Dear Members of the Board of Directors,

I am writing as a follow-up to my November 7, 2023 (EL7) letter, which can be found online [here](#). A copy of my original October 14, 2023 letter (EL14) can be found online [here](#).

### **Background**

On November 9, 2023, I received an email from Lynn Aeschliman, who chairs the TASIS Switzerland board and sits on the TASIS Foundation board (technically) chaired by her brother Thomas Fleming. Her communication expressed *precisely zero concern* for TASIS's insertion of pedophilic and pornographic books in the school bulletin(s) as outlined in EL7 above. Those materials remain on the TASIS website, elementary, middle, and high school bulletins, and TASIS-related social media sites and postings. Instead, Mrs. Aeschliman relayed two concerns: first, that her husband, Dr. Aeschliman, who sits on the TASIS Foundation board, not be the subject of communications, and second, that "*you not publicize<sup>1</sup> our communications.*"

In an email response the same day, Mrs. Aeschliman was asked to remove the materials from the elementary, middle, and high school bulletins, the TASIS website, and TASIS-related social media pages where children could easily access the pedophilic and pornographic material. In the alternative, Mrs. Aeschliman was asked to stop using the phrases "*rooted in classical-Christian tradition*" and promoting "*traditional family values*" to describe the school on its website and related marketing materials. As head of the TASIS Switzerland board, neither she (nor the TASIS boards) has responded to either request or taken any action to remove the materials.

### **"Integrity"**

*"οὕτω καὶ ὑμεῖς ἔξωθεν μὲν φαίνεσθε τοῖς ἀνθρώποις δίκαιοι, ἔσωθεν δὲ μεστοὶ ἐστε ὑποκρίσεως καὶ ἀνομίας."* - Matt. 23:28

Under Dr. Aeschliman's de facto leadership,<sup>2</sup> TASIS sternly warns students about *integrity* as part of the school's "*Academic Integrity Policy*," as follows:

*"TASIS students are expected to be **"principled"** and to **"act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities. They take responsibility for their own actions and the consequences that accompany them"** ("Academic Integrity"). Consequently, in creating **authentic pieces of work which honestly***

---

<sup>1</sup> The use of the predominantly British spelling of *publicize* seems curious for a board member of an "American School."

<sup>2</sup> In email communications, Dr. Aeschliman has self-identified as the TASIS Foundation board.

**acknowledge** the contributions of others, and in **not trying to gain an unfair advantage** in any course, students are living up to this expectation.

**Honesty is a core value** and an attribute of **personal integrity**. It applies to all aspects of life at TASIS, including academics. Each student is expected to **be responsible for his or her own work**. **Incidents of cheating, academic misconduct, or plagiarism are examples of dishonest conduct**, and we consider these incidents to be a major violation of School rules. Parents and students should understand our expectations for academic integrity.” (emphasis added)

TASIS Academic Integrity Policy<sup>3</sup>

Crucially, the document also states:

**“Students are ultimately responsible for making sure that their work is authentic and that all sources have been acknowledged.”**

On page 12, the policy goes on to state:

**“What is an authentic piece of work?”**

*An authentic piece of work is one that clearly shows the difference between the student’s own ideas and those of others... The latter, whether quoted or paraphrased, must be completely and appropriately acknowledged, whereas the former must be in a form which is evidently using the student’s own language and means of expression...*

**There should also be no fabrication of data.”** (emphasis added)

The document continues on page 13, with the following:

**“Citing Sources in Research Papers and Other Works**

*Citing sources is important as it **alerts the reader to a source** which has informed your own content.”* (emphasis added)

Dr. Aeschliman cites his Wikipedia page<sup>4</sup> in casual conversations and on his biography on the TASIS website.<sup>5</sup> However, a cursory review reveals that the page is almost entirely authored by pseudonymous

---

<sup>3</sup> See p. 10-12 of the TASIS High School Handbook [here](#)

<sup>4</sup> See Michael D. Aeschliman [here](#)

<sup>5</sup> See link [here](#)

accounts and relies heavily on primary sources.<sup>6</sup> [A. Roderick-Grove](#),<sup>7</sup> [Lexical Paws](#),<sup>8</sup> [Chuzzlewit23](#),<sup>9</sup> [WoollyBear](#),<sup>10</sup> [Tiltonalum](#)<sup>11</sup> and [Archibald Haddock](#),<sup>12</sup> appear to be sock-puppet accounts,<sup>13</sup> and are responsible for nearly all the substantial contributions to the page.<sup>14</sup> The pattern of edits raises the question of veiled authorship. Who would have the depth of (esoteric) knowledge, vested interest, and motivation to create and control pseudonymous (and seeming) sock puppet accounts?<sup>15</sup> IP addresses, when exposed, are linked to Switzerland.<sup>16</sup>

On January 9, 2021, user [Archibald Haddock](#), was cited as having a potential “conflict of interest,” and for using “original research,” and was cautioned about the potential breaches, as illustrated in Fig. 1 below:

---

<sup>6</sup> For example, the first sources cited on the page are links to pages on the Boston University (ref 1), TESIS (ref 2) websites. The later appears to be a biography written by Dr. Aeschliman himself, and provides no reliable secondary source, and thus appears to violate Wikipedia’s policy on original research [here](#). The second source leads to a blank web page for Boston University, with no mention of Dr. Aeschliman. Other citations, such as the purported references at the [www.jeffersonscholars.org](#) (ref 4) British institute (ref 5), or [uplausanne.ch](#) (ref 6) also point to blank pages or make no reference to Aeschliman. More [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#) Other references (e.g. ref 14-29 and 31-32) merely point to his own writings, make no mention of him, or also point to blank pages.

<sup>7</sup> The style and demeanor of the writing of [A. Roderick-Grove](#) are eerily like the writings of Dr. Aeschliman. More [here](#). Further, on June 25, 2023, Dr. Aeschliman participated in a “Symposium on the origins of international education and the birth of the International School of Geneva” more [here](#). In June, August, September, and October of 2023, in another extraordinary coincidence, [A. Roderick-Grove](#) made substantial edits to the Wikipedia page for the International School of Geneva, where Aeschliman also claims (in his TESIS biography), some relationship to the faculty. More [here](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Lexical Paws](#) has made only 32 edits. ~72 percent, or 23 of the edits, were to the Dr. Aeschliman page. Four (or 12.5 percent) of the remaining edits concerned John Robert Silber, a former president of Boston University where Dr. Aeschliman worked.

<sup>9</sup> [Chuzzlewit23](#) has made only three edits, all of them to the Aeschliman page.

<sup>10</sup> [WoollyBear](#) has made 32 edits, 60 percent, or 19, about TESIS Switzerland. Two entries were made to the Aeschliman page, and the rest generally concern, like the other accounts, academic institutions or academics.

<sup>11</sup> [Tiltonalum](#) has made 118 edits beginning around the same time as the other accounts (except [WoollyBear](#)). A substantial number of edits concern the Tilton School. In another remarkable coincidence, Dr. Aeschliman graduated from the Tilton School.

<sup>12</sup> [Archibald Haddock](#) made 31 edits; the first 4 were to the Aeschliman page. 23 edits were made to the International School of Geneva page or related talk page where, in yet another incredible coincidence, [A. Roderick-Grove](#) also edited. In another edit, [Archibald Haddock](#) adds a “notable current contributor” to the [National Review](#) Wikipedia page. Remarkably, the notable contributor, was Aeschliman. More [here](#)

<sup>13</sup> See Wikipedia’s policy on sock puppetry [here](#) All of these accounts (except [WoollyBear](#)) began making edits around the same time, between 2020 and 2021.


<sup>14</sup> See Michael D. Aeschliman: Revision history [here](#)

<sup>15</sup> See Wikipedia’s Conflict of Interest policy [here](#)

<sup>16</sup> Two edits on August 26, 2020, and on January 3, 2022, were made by IP editors. The IP addresses [176.46.228.26](#) and [188.1.116.57](#), respectively, were exposed, which are linked to a Ticinocom account located in Lugano, Switzerland, and a Bluewin account also located in Switzerland.

Fig. 1  
January 9, 2021, warning<sup>17</sup> to user [Archibald Haddock](#)

### Managing a conflict of interest [ edit ]

 Hello, Archibald Haddock. We [welcome](#) your contributions, but if you have an external relationship with the people, places or things [you have written about](#) in the page [International School of Geneva](#), you may have a [conflict of interest](#) (COI). Editors with a conflict of interest may be unduly influenced by their connection to the topic. See the [conflict of interest guideline](#) and [FAQ for organizations](#) for more information. We ask that you:

- **avoid editing or creating** articles about yourself, your family, friends, colleagues, company, organization or competitors;
- **propose changes** on the talk pages of affected articles (you can use the `{{request edit}}` template);
- **disclose** your conflict of interest when discussing affected articles (see [Wikipedia:Conflict of interest#How to disclose a COI](#));
- **avoid linking** to your organization's website in other articles (see [WP:Spam](#));
- **do your best** to comply with Wikipedia's [content policies](#).

In addition, you are **required** by the [Wikimedia Foundation's](#) terms of use to disclose your employer, client, and affiliation with respect to any contribution which forms all or part of work for which you receive, or expect to receive, compensation. See [Wikipedia:Paid-contribution disclosure](#).

Also, editing for the purpose of advertising, publicising, or promoting anyone or anything is not permitted. Thank you. [Lard Almighty \(talk\)](#) 12:09, 9 January 2021 (UTC) [ reply ]

The response by [Archibald Haddock](#) on the same page, is interesting because, once again, its topical focus, tone, and style seem extraordinarily similar to that of Dr. Aeschliman.

While most if not all of the accounts above can be indirectly tied to the subject, [WoollyBear](#) appears to have a more concrete and undisclosed conflict of interest.<sup>18</sup>

The pseudonymous editing combined with dubious primary sources, suggests a page, which according to Wikipedia guidelines, likely does not rise to even the most modest level of encyclopedic notability.

Nonetheless, for the purposes of this letter, the Aeschliman Wikipedia page lead that states he is: “**Curriculum Advisor** to The American School in Switzerland (TASIS) Foundation Board.” (emphasis added), will be taken at face value.

#### “No relationship to the TASIS curriculum or programs”

*“TASIS school identity and policy are no more invasive than necessary for the promotion of ‘**decent Godly order**’ and the explicit aims of the Paideia. Opinions are free, but the defense (or development) of fundamental school policy is entrusted to the Headmasters and Board Chairs **by the TASIS Foundation Board**, the ultimate legal and policy-making authority of the organization.”* (emphasis added)

TASIS Policies: Tradition, “Sphere Sovereignty,” and Schooling  
M.D. Aeschliman, Ph.D.<sup>19</sup>

---

<sup>17</sup> Available online [here](#)

<sup>18</sup> On February 1, 2021, [WoollyBear](#) uploaded a photograph of Dr. Aeschliman, to Wikimedia commons, claiming it was their own work, suggesting that the editor, if not Dr. Aeschliman himself, knows Dr. Aeschliman. The same day it was added to his Wikipedia page. [WoollyBear](#) has made multiple edits to the page without disclosing a conflict of interest. More [here](#)

<sup>19</sup> Link [here](#)

The Aeschliman Wikipedia page also states he is a “literary critic.” According to the “*Civic Literary Preface*”<sup>20</sup> he authored, Aeschliman is, perhaps unsurprisingly, specifically interested in *literature courses*. Dr. Aeschliman sits on the TASIS Foundation board referenced above.

Since the original October 14 letter, the TASIS board, in its November 1, 2023, response (BOD1) denied the promotion of pedophilic pornography in the TASIS curriculum or programs, specifically stating it has; “**...no relationship to the TASIS curriculum or programs**” (emphasis added).<sup>21</sup>

By way of background, in discussing the American civic tradition and various influences, Dr. Aeschliman has said:

*“It is our hope that TASIS history and **literature courses**, and the Senior Humanities requirement, acquaint all TASIS students with some of these sources and their enduring products.”* (emphasis added)<sup>22</sup>

As if not to be outdone by the TASIS TPA book club pornographic and pedophilic book choices that were inserted into the elementary, middle, and high school bulletins and promoted on the TASIS website and email distribution list (where they remain), TASIS one-upped the TPA book club by introducing the activities of **Camille Paglia**<sup>23</sup> in the *English literature courses* and curriculum. Paglia is a self-described **atheist, a supporter of, drugs, prostitution, child pornography, and pedophilia; a transgendered occultist with an interest in sadomasochism.**<sup>24</sup>

When confronted, the **Paglia curriculum** (which does not appear to be in any public TASIS documents) was defended by claiming that she is a part of “*American culture*” as an “*educator*” and that students might be “*exposed*” to such material at college. By that same logic, Mary Kay Letourneau<sup>25</sup> and Theodore John Kaczynski<sup>26</sup> are also “*educators*” and part of “*American culture.*” In fact, this same reasoning can be followed to introduce the students firsthand (in addition to gender ideology, pedophilia, and pornography) to drugs, rape, prostitution, etc., etc. because they might be “*exposed*” to such things in college.

Curiously, TASIS does not appear to share this part of its academic curriculum with prospective donors and benefactors as it seeks to raise an additional CHF 7,000,000 to complete the current capital

---

<sup>20</sup> See Civic literacy preface [here](#)

<sup>21</sup> The quote is taken from the TASIS Board of Directors November 1, 2023, unsigned letter responding to undisputed evidence of pornographic and pedophilic content promoted on the TASIS website, elementary, middle and high school bulletins, and related social media pages. A copy of the letter is attached to the November 7, 2023, letter cited above.

<sup>22</sup> See Civic literacy preface [here](#)

<sup>23</sup> Paglia book, *Break, Blow, Burn* is in use in the English literature course. Read more about Paglia [here](#)

<sup>24</sup> In addition to using the activities of Paglia in the English literature curriculum, the program also includes a focus on the reading sexually charged poems and reading other poems to mountains in an apparent effort to introduce the students to paganism.

<sup>25</sup> **Mary Katherine "Mary Kay" Fualaau** (née **Schmitz**, formerly **Letourneau**; January 30, 1962 – July 6, 2020), was an American sex offender and teacher who pleaded guilty in 1997 to two counts of felony second-degree rape of a child. More [here](#)

<sup>26</sup> **Theodore John Kaczynski** (May 22, 1942 – June 10, 2023), also known as the **Unabomber**, was an American mathematician, professor, and domestic terrorist. More [here](#)

campaign.<sup>27</sup> Notwithstanding the omission, and given their contributions to TESIS and its curriculum, perhaps one of the new buildings can be named *The Aciman-Paglia Center for Child Grooming*.

### **Virtue vs. Virtue Signaling**

The board of TESIS has made conspicuous moral statements in their foundational documents, especially in their recent declaration on "*social justice*." The Board(s) attempt to display good character by expressing opinions that they likely believe will be acceptable to a perceived majority. However, this *virtue signaling*<sup>28</sup> appears exaggerated, politically loaded, and seems to amount to empty boasting. The current board(s) appear to believe that they have attained virtue merely by expressing aversion or approval for certain political ideas or cultural occurrences.

In the TESIS model of virtue, ostensibly, no one actually has to do anything. Virtue can be effortlessly attained through the use of the right words or even the silent holding of certain beliefs. However, true virtue can only be achieved through continuous effort, struggle, and self-sacrifice.

With *integrity*, TESIS will likely continue to market its brand to parents, benefactors, and donors (many of whom are now from conservative, Catholic Ticino where authorities have blocked materials such as those above, in the public schools), as "*rooted in classical-Christian tradition*," and promoting "*traditional family values*." Given these declarations, credulous parents can't be blamed for ponying up the substantial annual tuition. Ultimately, millions more will be raised to erect impressive new buildings that cloak any appearance of decadence.

When it comes to the children, however, Christ's position, as reported by the evangelist Matthew, seems clear:

“Ὅς δ’ ἂν σκανδαλίση ἓνα τῶν μικρῶν τούτων τῶν πιστευόντων εἰς ἐμέ, συμφέρει αὐτῷ ἵνα κρεμασθῆ μύλος ὀνικὸς εἰς τὸν τράχηλον αὐτοῦ καὶ καταποντισθῆ ἐν τῷ πελάγει τῆς θαλάσσης.” Matt. 18:6

The TESIS board(s), particularly “curriculum advisors,” might consider taking Him at his word.

Sincerely,

+ *Emmanuel Lemelson*  
Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Lemelson

---

<sup>27</sup> See TESIS Global Village Building Campaign [here](#)

<sup>28</sup> More [here](#)