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Ombudsman investigation of the University of New South Wales (UNSW) delayed by court proceedings

The Office of the Ombudsman has been investigating certain conduct at the University of New South Wales since late 2003. The Ombudsman has reported on the investigation in his 2004 and 2005 annual reports. The investigation, which has included private hearings and the consideration of substantial evidence and submissions from many parties, is largely complete.

Professor Ingelson, whose conduct is the subject of part of the investigation, commenced proceedings against the Ombudsman in the Supreme Court on 13 June 2006. Senior Counsel retained by the Ombudsman has advised that the proceedings should be defended. The Ombudsman is acting in accordance with Senior Counsel's advice.

NSW Ombudsman Bruce Barbour said: **“While these proceedings are before the Court, it would be inappropriate for the Ombudsman to complete the investigation or release the report of the investigation. It would also be inappropriate to make any further comments about the investigation or proceedings.”**