

**PRESS RELEASE
PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE**

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON
DELIBERATE ONLINE FALSEHOODS –
CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES AND COUNTERMEASURES**

CLARIFICATIONS ON ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

Parliament Secretariat wrote to Dr Thum Ping Tjin today, to seek his assistance in clarifying his academic credentials.

2 Dr Thum's written representation had stated that he was, amongst other things, a Research Fellow in History at Oxford University. During the hearing, he had informed the Committee that, amongst other things, he held a "visiting professorship in anthropology". He subsequently explained online that he was a "visiting research fellow in history within the dept of anthropology."

3 In view of these varying accounts, clarifications have been sought to ensure that the Committee's report correctly reflects Dr Thum's positions, and to ensure that the Committee is accurately apprised.

Office of the Clerk of Parliament
13 April 2018

Email to Dr Thum:

Dear Dr Thum

We refer to your written representation to the Select Committee on Deliberate Online Falsehoods dated 28 February 2018, and your oral evidence to the Select Committee on 29 March 2018.

2. In your written representation, you stated that “I have been a Research Fellow at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore (2012-2014) and a Research Fellow in History and Coordinator of Project Southeast Asia at the University of Oxford (2014 – present)”.

3. In your oral evidence, you state that “[a]s of last year I’ve actually switched to anthropology”, and that you now hold a “visiting professorship in anthropology”.

4. It has come to the attention of the Select Committee that you have subsequently described yourself online as “a visiting research fellow in history within the dept of anthropology”.

5. In view of the differences in these answers, the Select Committee would like your response :

(a) Which of the above three statements is accurate, as of 29 March 2018, when you appeared before the Committee?

(b) Do you now hold any part-time academic position in Oxford University? If so, (i) what is the formal title of that position, and (ii) are you paid for your work in that position?

(c) Are you still the Coordinator of Project Southeast Asia?

6. You may, if you wish, provide documentary evidence (or links to Oxford University’s website) to support your answers.

7. Please provide your answers by 5 pm, Monday, 16 April 2018.