

Dear Camera Reader,

One of the earliest stories I remember my Mother telling me was one that had to do with a king and his new suit. I now know that her story was penned by Hans Christian Andersen in 1837 but today almost every country has its own “suit” version. I will relate to you my Mother’s Russian version. A king was approached by two questionable tailors who told the king that they had made for him “the most beautiful suit in the world” and they proudly showed it to him. For a moment the king appeared puzzled because he saw no suit but the tailors cleverly quickly added that only the clever and competent could actually see their magnificent suit. Since the king did not wish to appear stupid or incompetent he of course praised the suit enthusiastically. Soon the entire kingdom learned of this suit that could only be seen by the clever and the competent, and they all waited anxiously for the king’s next formal appearance. When the king finally appeared the entire village praised the great beauty of the suit since they certainly did not wish to be seen as stupid and incompetent. As luck would have it one little boy had not heard about this magical suit and when the king appeared he shouted, “The king, the king is naked as the day he was born.” Needless to say the tailors’ hoax was exposed.

Similarly, it was an open secret that back in the early 2000 CU had provided both sex and drugs to attract new athletic recruits. It was also an open secret that since I had been at CU I had had a series of six wonderful consensual long term girlfriends from 1965 to 2000! These girl friends were part of my family unit. It is most certainly true that only the stupid and the incompetent did not know this. When the media, the little boy in my mother’s story, learned the truth about CU’s recruiting practices and my chosen life style CU administrators fell all over them self’s denying that they had any knowledge of these two “open secrets.” The competent and clever were “Shocked, absolutely shocked” to quote a line from a well known movie. I, in any case, was officially fired for “moral turpitude,” not for sexual harassment, which I thought was pretty OK with me! For the record I had never assaulted anyone, male or female sexually or otherwise. CU has a long history of vilifying problem professors and I admit, in my later years, to have been a problem professor. Once in an open discussion with some of my colleagues about how one might want to die, one of them gamely said that he would “like to be killed by a jealous husband when he was ninety!” Not too funny a joke these days.

In closing I had spent more than wonderful 45 years at CU. There is no question that my sudden exiting CU was a bit unpleasant so over the past several years I have documented some of these unpleasantness’, for those who might be interested, on my home page, www.gamow.com, under, “[Now for the Rest of the Story.](#)”

Igor Gamow, September 2011