

Warren National University's latest campus

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Bernard Madoff has fallen farther. Rod Blagojevich about as far. But the executives of Kennedy-Western University and its successor in name, Warren National University, have fallen farther than most.

A few years ago, the unaccredited degree selling operation was raking in over \$20 million a year. Even a Senate hearing that placed the spotlight on their scandalous ways did not drive them away. So long as they had the State of Wyoming providing them a safe haven from which to operate, they went on.

For years, Wyoming legislators embraced the unaccredited degree sellers' businesses and did nothing to discourage them from relocating here nor to encourage them to leave.

Education department staffers who were charged with "reviewing" these operations became bit players in their success. Junkets were preferable to truth. So, outfits like Kennedy-Western were allowed to remain in Wyoming and legislators drafted legislation designed to make it easier for K-WU to succeed - using Wyoming as their base of operation.

Finally, with the shame of having the police chief of Wyoming's capital and largest city, as well as the head of the Wyoming Department of Transportation, both holding "degrees" from bogus degree sellers (the police chief's master's degree was purchased with public funds) and the increasingly bright spotlight being shone on these shameless operations by the Cheyenne Herald, even top educators in the state decided that getting on board our effort to rid the state of unaccredited degree sellers discredited in almost every other state, was the right course to take. The president of the University of Wyoming, the presidents of local community colleges and the elected

state superintendent of schools finally joined our battle. A simple quest: To rid Wyoming of these illegitimate and parasitic "degree granters."

No, they weren't operating illegally. That was the rub. We allowed them, we encouraged them, to operate in Wyoming and gave them a cover of legitimacy - a state license. In fairness, the recent lawsuit filed on behalf of dozens of former students of KW-U / WNU should have

included the State of Wyoming as a defendant. No one did more to enable this nefarious operation to survive and succeed than did the State of Wyoming - legislators, statewide elected officials and employees of WDOE. Immunity, though.

All of the many unaccredited degree sellers who set up here have been banished from our midst. The largest, K-WU / WNU now shows an address in Colorado for "students" to send their money.

And, presumably, there are still pigeons out there willing to send money for virtually worthless diplomas and transcripts. The address shown on the WNU website (2519 S. Shields #140) suggests they have rented an office. They haven't. They are using a mail drop box at a PackanMail.com store in Fort Collins. They can buy packing peanuts or pick up their ill-gotten gains from mail box 140. They are not in Suite 140 - they are in drop box 140. How far they've fallen.

Correct mailing address: Warren National University --- 2519 So. Shields --- Unit 1K, Drop Box No. 140 --- Fort Collins, CO 80526

