

Ex-Columbia professor files \$200M lawsuit

by UPI

NEW YORK -- Madonna Constantine alleges in a \$200 million lawsuit against Columbia University "academic lynching" resulted in her dismissal from the New York school.

Constantine, who gained national attention when a noose was found on her college office door, alleges in her Manhattan Supreme Court lawsuit Columbia officials orchestrated her 2008 dismissal amid claims of plagiarism, the New York Post said Wednesday.

"The manner in which the scheme was hatched and carried out is tantamount to an academic lynching," she alleges in the suit filed Tuesday.

Paul Giacomo Jr., Constantine's lawyer, echoed those claims, saying the Columbia probe into the allegations against the Teachers College professor was a "prosecution."

"It was a prosecution, it wasn't an investigation," Giacomo alleged. "They basically set her up."

The Post said a Teachers College faculty committee will review Constantine's dismissal starting Thursday.

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