Professor thinks the rector should resign

The vice chancellor of Uppsala University, Anders Hallberg, should resign, says today Bo Berndtsson, professor of mathematics in Gothenburg. He means that the actions taken by the vice chancellor against the two mathematics professors from Uppsala, Oleg Viro and Burglind Jöricke, have been so bad that he ought to leave his post.

- I think it would be appropriate for the vice chancellor to resign. It would be an indication, but it is not important in itself. The important thing is that this history be cleared up, and that the persons that have come to harm be redressed, and that confidence in the university be restored, says Bo Berndtsson, professor of mathematics in Goteborg.

Bo Berndtsson presented his severe critiscism against Anders Hallberg in the Radio Uppland news hour thursday afternoon. In the program Berndtsson was discussing the events when the two professors were pressed to resign by the vice chancellor earlier this year. Uppsala professor Li Bennich-Bjorkman also took part in the discussion.

'The vice chancellor has had poor advisors'

It appears now that large parts of what was said, both concerning the professors alleged scientific incompetence, but also there slandering and harassing of others, lack any solid foundation. This indicates that the rector has had poor advisors, says Li Bennich-Bjorkman.

She also means that there may be reasons to consider whether some other persons in the organization shall remain on their posts. And Bo Berndtsson means that the university must make clear what has happened.

-When it appears that these accusations have been so loosely founded that there is no material evidence, a lot of the accusations against the professors collapse. The university now must clear up the damage that has been caused and admit the mistakes committed. That is what is most important, says Bo Berndtsson, professor of mathematics in Goteborg.

Rector Anders Hallberg declined to take part in the debate.

Reporter Mårten Nilsson Radio Uppland June 7, 2007 Unauthorized translation.