

After consultation with signatories to the first Brown letter, we sent the following on December 19 2011:

Dear Dr. Wing,

Thank you for your letter of November 10, 2011 in reply to our letter of October 4, 2011 to President Ruth J. Simmons.

We are pleased that Brown University takes seriously questions about the soundness of faculty-conducted research. We acknowledge that confidentiality of personal information is important. However, we think that you misunderstood our request. You have said that we requested "memos associated with an internal review", but we made no request for any such memos or any other confidential information. Rather, we asked for your help to address the fact that the Keller et al article published in the Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry seriously misrepresented the efficacy and safety of Paxil for the treatment of adolescent depression and continues to be cited uncritically in the medical literature and is available for inclusion in meta-analyses, with important implications for future as well as past research. Journals can and do withdraw articles in similar situations.

We specifically requested – and we now repeat our request – that you write an open letter to the Editor of JAACAP, Dr. Andrés Martin, supporting our request for retraction of the journal article. We believe that such a letter is an adjustment or correction that is warranted by the facts of the case, and it would be a clear indicator of Brown University's commitment to taking appropriate action. The letter could be based on publicly available evidence of the problems associated with the study and need not include anything from your confidential internal review.

We recognise both the confidentiality issues and the need for careful process, and do not expect to be privy to your ongoing internal discussion. On the other hand we are eager to know your decision, so we can in turn decide if and how further to address this important issue. Thus we have a second request, that you provide us with a general date by which you expect to be able to inform us that your internal review is completed.

Yours sincerely,
Jon Jureidini & Leemon McHenry

We got no reply.