

From: DoctorDunivin <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Call for APA Transparency re: Hoffman Project
Date: September 18, 2015 at 8:33:20 AM PDT
To: Debra Dunivin <[REDACTED]>

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Thanks so much for your support as we continue our efforts to reply to APA's Hoffman project. A number of you have asked if APA has said why it is not releasing the Hoffman report source materials. On August 26, 2015, Jeannie Rhee of WilmerHale, on behalf of APA, denied our request for the interview notes and all supporting evidence for the Hoffman report. Her explanation for the denial was simply that "APA did not want to delve into it." When specifically asked if APA was claiming the documents given to Mr Hoffman by APA, or his interview notes, were confidential or privileged, Ms. Rhee stated: "I am not saying that." When asked if she was responding on behalf of Mr Hoffman, she said we were "free to contact him." We did. Mr Hoffman did not respond.

Neither APA nor Mr Hoffman contacted us when the errata sheet was produced, in spite of APA being on notice that we have found factual errors in the report. As we have stated previously, we are happy to discuss payment of reasonable costs in obtaining access to these documents (they should be in electronic form) and any compelling reasons that some of those documents might not be disclosed to us. It is our understanding that none of the individuals interviewed were promised confidentiality. Since APA is not claiming that the notes are privileged or confidential, and they are espousing transparency in this process, we fail to understand the rationale that "APA did not want to delve into it."

Russ, Larry, Morgan, and I greatly appreciate your interest in the difficulty we are having accessing Mr Hoffman's notes and other source materials. Many of you have asked us to whom you should write if you want to make your views known.

There are a number of potential addressees: The "special committee" (Nadine Kaslow and Susan McDaniel, email addresses below), any member of the Board of Directors (email addresses also below), and your Council representative (links to those addresses also below). You should feel absolutely free to choose an addressee and copy others (and perhaps make it known on your listservs that you have done so). Please make sure to communicate that you expect a response. For those of you who actually know a member of the Special Committee, the Board, or your Council representative, you will probably want to add a personal touch to your message. What's most important is that the letter come from YOU and you say you await a reply.

Below please find three sample letters. Feel free to edit these letters to put them in your own words/ voice. I know you will always maintain a respectful tone. I've attached two documents. The first, a press statement calling for the release of Hoffman's source materials, may provide you helpful background to our request. The second, A Call for Scientific Validation of the Hoffman Report by Dick Kilburg, is referred to in the letters below, and you may want to include it as an attachment in the message you send. (For any of you who would like to read more on the actual subject matter, here's a link to a book chapter I co-authored: <http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/FileDownloadpublic.aspx?docid=033cad4d-b874-4ead-8fa1-a940603ce80a>.)

Thank you for your support!

Debra Dunivin, PhD, ABPP
[REDACTED]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

<http://www.apa.org/about/governance/board/index.aspx>

(above webpage has their photos and bios, and is a little cumbersome, so I've put the names and addresses of Board of Directors below)

To copy and paste into your "TO: field":

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



COUNCIL DIVISIONS:

<http://www.apa.org/about/governance/council/members/division-representatives.aspx>

COUNCIL STATES/PROVINCES/TERRITORIES:

<http://www.apa.org/about/governance/council/members/spta-representatives.aspx>

COUNCIL ALPHABETICAL:

<http://www.apa.org/about/governance/council/members/index.aspx>

(begin Sample Message #1 for emails)

Dear Dr _____,

I am an APA member. I would like you as my representative from [State/Division] to support individuals named in the Hoffman report to receive the source materials on which Mr. Hoffman based his report. For the past year, APA has talked publicly about the importance of transparency on this issue, and fairness demands that APA be consistent in this regard, in order to give these individuals an opportunity to clear their names. I would also strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with Dr. Dick Kilburg's "Call for Scientific Validation of the Hoffman Report, which I am attaching.

Thank you for informing me of your position on this important issue.

Sincerely,

signed

(Attach reference - Dr Kilburg's Call for Scientific Validation)

(begin Sample Message #2 for emails)

Dear Dr. _____,

I have been following discussions related to the Hoffman report with great interest. I believe that it is critical for APA members, and interested members of the public, to familiarize themselves with the events described in the report and APA's subsequent actions.

I also believe that, as a scientific organization, APA should welcome scrutiny of the report and its methodology. For that reason, I am encouraging you to support making all the source materials used in the report available for public scrutiny. I realize that people named in the report have requested access to the materials, but I believe there is also a larger issue to be addressed: APA's willingness to be transparent and non-defensive about how our Association develops policy. The "special committee" said that transparency was essential. Please assure the membership that the special committee was truly committed to transparency.

I am attaching a "Call for Scientific Validation," which raises a number of important issues to be addressed in APA's continuing response to the Hoffman report.

Sincerely,

signed

(Attach reference - Dr Kilburg's Call for Scientific Validation)

(begin Sample Message #3 for emails)

Dear Dr. _____,

I am writing to you with a concern regarding the Hoffman report. Having read the report with great interest, although (until now) not detailed familiarity with the events at issue, I have a number of questions and concerns about Mr. Hoffman's methodology and his potential biases. Listserv discussions indicate that I am not alone in having these concerns.

I am writing to ask that you support making the source materials for the Hoffman report available for public scrutiny or (at the very least) available to those who wish to defend themselves and clear their names, or to those who wish to examine and validate the report (as they might a forensic report). Making the sources of the report is consistent with our Ethics Code, 8.14 Sharing Research Data for Verification.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

signed
