

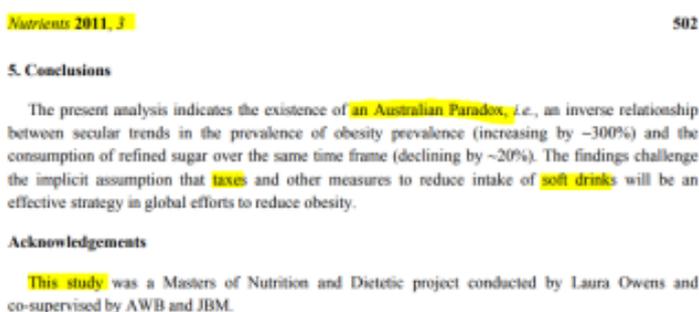
Rory Robertson  
19 March 2018

## Letter: Independent confirmation of fake data in University of Sydney's Australian Paradox fraud

Dear members of the University of Sydney Academic Board, the Australian Medical Association, the Grattan Institute, the Obesity Coalition, the Menzies Research Centre, the Greens in Federal Parliament, the Editorial Board of the *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* (AJCN), and interested observers (including journalists), [List of letter recipients on pp. 4-5]

Good morning/afternoon/evening. I hope you all are well. I'm writing again to express my renewed concern that the University of Sydney's Charles Perkins Centre is overseeing a serious scientific fraud.

One part of this fraud involves the University's scientists and senior management simply pretending that their original *Australian Paradox* "finding" is based on valid data despite unambiguous confirmation that critical sugar data - highlighted in the chart below - have been faked: pp. 4-7 and 12-13 in <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/ABC-investigation-AustralianParadox.pdf> and <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/FAOfalsifiedsugar.pdf>



<http://www.mdpi.com/2072-6643/3/4/491>

Beyond their infamous *Australian Paradox* story being based on fake data, authors Professor Jennie Brand-Miller and Dr Alan Barclay have been unreasonably slippery over the past six years in refusing to acknowledge that their main conclusion of a **"consistent and substantial decline" in Australian per-capita sugar consumption over the 1980 to 2010 timeframe** - and so "an inverse relationship" between sugar consumption and obesity - is **plainly contradicted by their valid data trending up not down**, in their own published charts: pp. 18 and 28 <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Big-5-year-update-Feb-2017.pdf>

Further, I am troubled by Professor Brand-Miller and Dr Barclay **alleging in an ANU PhD thesis that I bribed Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence with a \$10,000 gift**, to ensure a research-integrity inquiry into their (ongoing) academic misconduct: pp. 4-6 <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/USyd-Misconduct-in-ANU-PhD.pdf>

Talk about bringing Australian "science" into disrepute: nowhere else in the world would highly influential scientists - including Professor Brand-Miller (of Glycemic Index fame), Dr Barclay (Head of Research at the Australian Diabetes Council 1998-2014), Professor Stephen Simpson (Academic Director of the palatial \$500m Charles Perkins Centre) and Professor Stewart Truswell (the main scientific author of our Australian Dietary Guidelines) - be **so utterly shameless as to pretend that conspicuously flat, dead-ending, fake data are acceptable in "peer reviewed" science**: see chart on p. 1 and discussion on p. 6 of <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/USyd-Misconduct-in-ANU-PhD.pdf>

I have spoken one-on-one with each of the individuals identified above, so they are **well aware of the profound problems with the 2011 paper**, including that critical data are fake/made-up/invalid: <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/LettersCPCProfSimpson.pdf>

My observation is that **basic incompetence in 2011 morphed into an epic scientific fraud**. What I'm less sure about is why our Charles Perkins Centre heavy-hitters think they are going to get away with it, now that their *Australian Paradox* fraud features in our high-profile national debate on whether or not there should be a "**Sugar Tax**": pp. 1-9 <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/australian-sugar-tax-debate.pdf>

Of course, as always, there are commercial considerations:

- Professor Brand-Miller and Dr Barclay operate the **University of Sydney's 50%-owned Glycemic Index business** that gets paid by the food industry to put healthy "Low GI" stamps on products that are up to 99.4% sugar, with 46%-sugar Milo promoted as a health-food for children: <https://www.foodpolitics.com/2016/03/sugar-in-australia-its-better-for-you/> ; p. 49 <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Big-5-year-update-Feb-2017.pdf>
- Brand-Miller, Barclay and their Charles Perkins Centre co-author Professor Stephen Colagiuri are **selling millions of pop-sci "Low GI" diet books featuring the ridiculous false claim that "There is absolute consensus that sugar in food does not cause [type 2] diabetes"**. That would matter less if Professor Colagiuri did not appear to be the main scientific author of Australia's *National Diabetes Strategy 2016-2020* (p. 84 in the previous link).
- The University of Sydney management's dishonest embrace of obviously fake data as valid appears to be the result of **Vice-Chancellor Michael Spence having chosen to prioritise his University's own reputation - and associated taxpayer funding of ~\$700m per annum** - over seeking to limit harmful misinformation in the public debate (p. 79 in the previous link).

All that I have detailed in this letter is completely unacceptable. Tragically, the *Australian Paradox* matter is just the tip of an iceberg of incompetence, scientific fraud and false information - via a range of tax-funded entities - that is promoting **harmful mistreatment for the million or so Australians affected by type 2 diabetes, resulting in misery and/or early death for many, especially Indigenous Australians**: pp. 5-6 <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Expanded-Letter-HealthDept-type2diabetes.pdf> ; <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2Fs13300-018-0373-9.pdf>

How do we start to fix this mess? Well, as I have noted previously, **formal retraction is the standard scientific treatment for extraordinarily faulty papers with false conclusions that work to harm public health**: <https://www.the-scientist.com/?articles.view/articleNo/51195/title/Top-10-Retractions-of-2017/>

**Accordingly, Academic Board members, I again request, please, that you strike a blow for scientific integrity, and to improve public health, by properly overseeing the formal retraction of the *Australian Paradox* paper (2011).**

I trust that members of the Academic Board understand that it is *your responsibility* to do more than just hope this increasingly high-profile scientific fraud goes away. If this blatant scientific fraud is not fixed, I believe Vice-Chancellor Spence should be removed from his post by the University of Sydney Senate: <http://sydney.edu.au/secretariat/senate-committees/senate/index.shtml>

Finally, readers, please feel free to forward this letter to anyone you think might be interested in the carefully documented detail of this growing national scandal.

Regards,  
Rory

Comments, criticisms, questions, compliments, whatever welcome at [strathburnstation@gmail.com](mailto:strathburnstation@gmail.com)

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Here's ABC TV's *Lateline* on the University of Sydney's *Australian Paradox*: <http://www.abc.net.au/lateline/content/2015/s4442720.htm>

Much of the high-profile opposition to proposed sugar tax in Australia is based on the *Australian Paradox* sugar-and-obesity fraud: <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/australian-sugar-tax-debate.pdf>

Here's Vice-Chancellor Spence's threat to ban me from campus: (p. 64) <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Big-5-year-update-Feb-2017.pdf>

During National Diabetes Week, I wrote to the Department of Health about "The scandalous mistreatment of Australians with type 2 diabetes (T2D)": <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/Expanded-Letter-HealthDept-type2diabetes.pdf>

Want to stop trends in your family and friends towards obesity, type 2 diabetes, heart disease and various cancers? Stop eating and drinking sugar: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDaYa0AB8TQ&feature=youtu.be>

Here's the diet advised by Dr Peter Brukner, recently the Australian cricket team's doctor: <http://www.peterbrukner.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/All-you-need-to-know-about-LCHF1.pdf> ; <http://www.abc.net.au/catalyst/lowcarb/>

A life in our times: Vale Alexander "Sandy" Robertson (1933-2015): <http://www.australianparadox.com/pdf/AlecRobertson-born2oct33.pdf>

[www.strathburn.com](http://www.strathburn.com)

Strathburn Cattle Station is a proud partner of YALARI, Australia's leading provider of quality boarding-school educations for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander teenagers. Check it out at <http://www.strathburn.com/yalari.php>

*Please reply "Please delete" if you would like not to receive occasional updates on this matter.*

List of letter recipients begins overleaf.

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