

361 East Kings Road
North Vancouver BC, VHN 1H8
12 November 2009

Dr. David Suzuki, Founder
The David Suzuki Foundation
Suite 219, 2211 West 4th Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6K 4S2

Dr. Suzuki,

Re: Scholarly Integrity

Further to my previous letters, I am writing to again reiterate my appeal to you. This is an open letter.

As I have outlined in detail, it appears to me that you and your foundation have selectively reported and misreported some of your own research findings with regards to PCBs in farmed salmon, and sea lice. Contrary to some of your claims, your actual research findings do not show that farmed salmon is high in PCBs and do not show that sea lice originating from salmon farms are putting wild salmon at risk of extinction.

In science, unsubstantiated claims lack scientific integrity. Canada's Tri-Council on Integrity in Research and Scholarship defines scientific misconduct as any action that is inconsistent with integrity.¹

UBC's policy on Scholarly Integrity states that the University community "has always recognized the necessity for maintaining the highest ethical standards in the conduct of Scholarly Activities."² Since you are Professor Emeritus of UBC, I assume that this policy applies to you, Dr. Suzuki.

UBC's definition of Scholarly Activity includes "activities that would be appropriate for inclusion on a curriculum vitae." In your publicly available curriculum vitae, you list among your "Professional Activities" your 17 years as chair and president of your foundation.³

According to UBC policy, UBC defines falsification as "alteration, selective omission or misrepresentation of research data or citations."⁴ In this sense of the term, it appears to me that you have selectively omitted and thereby falsified some of the findings of research funded and publicized by your own foundation with regards to PCBs in farmed salmon, and sea lice.

I have earnestly requested that you make amends for your unsubstantiated claims and for the selective and inaccurate information that you have disseminated. I feel that if I ignore your actions and inaction, I become complicit in your fallacies about PCBs in farmed salmon, and sea lice.

I reiterate my appeal to you to publicly clarify that contrary to some of your earlier claims, your actual research findings:

- a) Do not show that farmed salmon is high in PCBs, and
- b) Do not show that sea lice originating from salmon farms cause high levels of mortality among juvenile salmon in the wild, and put their populations at risk of extinction.

Sincerely,

Vivian Krause

Sent by e-mail.

¹ http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Policies-Politiques/tpsintegrity-picintegritie_eng.asp

² <http://www.universitycounsel.ubc.ca/policies/policy85.pdf>

³ <http://www.davidsuzuki.org/files/General/drsuzukiCV.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.universitycounsel.ubc.ca/policies/policy85.pdf>