



Dear Colleagues

Professor Levon Khachigian will be returning to work at UNSW Australia in the Faculty of Medicine on 18 May 2015. This follows a period of agreed leave that commenced in October 2013, during which period the University investigated issues which had been brought to our attention at that time in relation to certain research and publications involving Professor Khachigian. The investigations which were conducted throughout the course of 2014 were carried out by independent external expert panels of inquiry with significant scientific and legal expertise, as required by the Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research.

No finding of research misconduct was made in relation to Professor Khachigian. The investigations found that there had been breaches by Professor Khachigian of the UNSW Research Code but that these breaches were the result of genuine error or honest oversight, not deliberate or intentional conduct. The experts also found that the scientific conclusions in relevant published material were unaffected by the errors which were minor. The panels noted that Professor Khachigian did not fail in his supervisory responsibility and had mechanisms in place to ensure the accurate recording and reporting of original data and had procedures in place to avoid error. The University takes breaches of the Research Code very seriously and appropriate measures have been taken in response to the inquiry findings.

All relevant third parties have been informed of the outcome of these investigations.

This has been a lengthy and thorough process and the University appreciates the efforts of all those involved.

UNSW AUSTRALIA
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