

Dear Sir Muir

I am writing with regard to the resignation of Phillip Campbell, which was announced on Channel Four news today. I think this was the correct decision in the circumstances.

I would like to suggest a way for you to recruit a suitable replacement, since you will undoubtedly still require the services of someone with expertise in the ethics of publication in scientific journals. Might I suggest that you contact COPE - the Committee on Publication Ethics - and ask them to appoint the replacement member of your team. The link to their website is here:

<http://publicationethics.org/about>

COPE have obvious expertise in the area and you would be immune to accusations of bias if the selection of the individual was not in your control. For your information, I have recently submitted a paper to COPE on the UEA emails so that their board can consider what lessons can be learned from the affair.

In addition, I would suggest that Professor Boulton's background in the University of East Anglia and his statements on global warming leave the panel with an unbalanced appearance and you may wish to consider if this is appropriate or if it can be offset by the appointment of someone of the opposite persuasion.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Montford

<http://bishophill.squarespace.com>