

**From:** [Weindorf, David C](#)  
**To:** [Dunbar, Gary](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Update  
**Date:** Thursday, August 18, 2022 8:41:13 AM

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Gary-

Received with thanks--

Can I ask you to please copy all of your email and place it on letterhead as an official memo? You can address it to me.

Thank you,

David W.

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**From:** Dunbar, Gary <dunba1g@cmich.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 17, 2022 5:26:36 PM  
**To:** Weindorf, David C <weind1dc@cmich.edu>  
**Subject:** Update

David:

Thanks for meeting with me last week. As I indicated to you, Dr. Maiti is no longer at FNI and we have extricated all his files and had them unencrypted, so we now have unfettered access to all of his images on the FNI computers. Unfortunately, we were not able to locate all files, and so we may not be able to confirm the veracity of the analysis on all papers, such as the counts as the Paladugu et al paper (IJMS, 2021), which we may need to have withdrawn. However, we are still hoping to prepare corrections for the other papers (Maiti et al, IJMS,2020; Maiti et al, Alzheimer's Research & Therapy, 2021; Maiti et al, PMC Neuroscience, 2018; Maiti et al., Histochemistry & Cell Biology, 2016).

To be charitable, Dr. Maiti was meticulous in producing images, but not in documenting them. Obviously, neither FNI nor his previous employers were made aware of these problems until last October when Pubpeer flagged several of his papers. To his credit he helped with the two successful published corrections (Peruzarro et al., J. Neuroinflammation, 2019; Maiti et al, J of Cellular and Molecular Medicine). However, a third published erratum (in Alzheimer's Research & Therapy) still contained an undetected duplicate image, so we have requested a further correction for this.

FNI hired Dr. Maiti to run its lab and set up collaborations with SVSU and CMU and he was a huge asset in teaching students immunohistochemistry. Unfortunately, his lack of stringently following protocol has cost us an enormous amount of time and energy in trying to rectify the

problems this caused. We are doing our very best to mitigate the fallout from this, and it is particularly taxing on those of us who were meticulous and forthright in all the parts of the project in which we were responsible.

At this point, we have contacted all of the publishers and responded to the anonymous postings in Pubpeer and some of us have given up our vacations and have worked day and night to provide corrections and an honest and complete representation of all the data. We are utilizing a commercially available image duplication software (although not AI-forensic quality of Pubpeer) to check all the images on all the papers in which we collaborated with Dr. Maiti. Hopefully, we will be able to put most, if not all, of this behind us before the end of the upcoming semester.

Again, thank you for meeting with me and for your excellent ideas about re-packaging some of the studies in the event that we need to withdraw some papers. I have shared this idea with other colleagues whose honest efforts have been thwarted by this most unfortunate and unforeseen set of events. I will continue to keep you posted with our progress and will continue to work diligently on the corrections along with my other academic duties.

With Best Wishes,

Gary