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August 4, 2006

Dean Svend Hylleberg
Delivered by e-mail to dekan.sam@au.dk

RE; Helmuth Nyborg

Dear Dean Hylleberg:

I attach my note of December, 2005 to this letter. I have reviewed the report of the inquiry into Dr. Nyborg's sex-difference report. Consistent with my December letter, I continue to hold that scientific debates are best settled in open forums and not through university censorship. Scientific findings are often upsetting to one constituency or another. Whether Dr. Nyborg's findings are sound or incorrect is best evaluated through open scientific debate not through university committee's.

Don't let your university be identified as one that values political correctness over scientific debate.

Sincerely,

(delivered by e-mail)

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December 24, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

RE; Helmuth Nyborg

It is Christmas Eve. It is a time to spend time with one's family. So why am I taking time away from my family to write a letter of support for Dr. Nyborg? I hardly know the man. I am writing because I believe that scientific debates are best settled in open forums and not through university censorship.

My understanding is that Dr. Nyborg was reprimanded for talking with a reporter about a paper presented at the 2001 meeting of the International Society of Intelligence Research. It is a common practice for some conference papers to attract media attention. A sex difference would certainly attract attention. It appears that you seek to punish the messenger for the message.

It has been reported to me that Dr. Nyborg's research materials have been confiscated by a university administrator. Is this not a bit extreme? One way past governments have cleansed away incorrect thoughts was to confiscate incorrect books. Does the university really want to be associated with book burners?

Scientific findings are occasionally upsetting (consider Galileo, Darwin). Whether Dr. Nyborg's findings are sound or incorrect is best evaluated through open scientific debate not through university censorship. The actions of the administrators of the University of Aarhus are an embarrassment.

Sincerely,

(delivered by e-mail)

Michael A. McDaniel
Professor