Author's response to reviews

Title: Perceptions of graduating students from eight medical schools in Vietnam on acquisition of key skills identified by teachers

Authors:

Hoat N Luu (luungchoat@hn.vnn.vn)
Son M Nguyen (sonnhung03@yahoo.com)
Pamela E Wright (pamela.wright@mcnv.nl)

Version: 6 Date: 19 January 2008

Author's response to reviews: see over
Dear Sir/Madame,

Thank you for your question concerning the order of the author’s name. We have tried to fit the Vietnamese name to the Western system, and that requires using the Vietnamese given name as a family name. In Vietnam, too many people have the same family name so people are identified using what a Westerner would call the given name. At the time of registration we had not yet recognised this problem, so that the manuscript does not match the order on the registration in the submission system. This problem occurred in our previous BMC paper (reference: see http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6920/7/19) and my other articles published in other journals also used the same order (see http://www.informaworld.com/openurl?genre=article&issn=0142-159X&volume=29&issue=7&spage=683&uno_jumptype=alert&uno_alerttype=author.email), and the final version was accepted in the same form as this paper. All of my other publications list me as Hoat LN and if we change this one as you request, this paper will not be identified as mine. We understand that your journal is not trying to be ethnocentric by insisting on which name comes first but only that you are trying to match the manuscript with the submission system. Now that the manuscript has been processed, it is not possible to change the submission system’s name order, but we really should keep the name order on the manuscript as it is for all future reference to it. Thank you for following the previous example and allowing the name order on this manuscript to remain as it is.

We have changed the references as you suggested and we hope that they now extract correctly.

Thanks once again for your careful attention to our manuscript,

Yours truly,

Luu Ngoc Hoat