Correction to: Culture of minimal influence: A study of Japanese university students’ attitudes toward plagiarism

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The author wishes to report an error due to data miscalculation that appears in: Wheeler (2014) Culture of minimum influence: a study of Japanese university students’ attitudes toward plagiarism. IJEI 10(2):44-59. In the study, the author declares that data gathered from male and female Japanese university students concerning their views towards the importance of citation showed no significant differences. However, these results were due to erroneous data calculation. Although both male and female students demonstrated clearly their belief in the importance of source citation, results of a chi-square test indicate that female students placed greater importance on the need for citation. For questions 3 and 4 in the survey, although the test results may have been unreliable due to insufficient data for some of the possible response choices, for both questions 97% (289/298) of the female students answered that citation was either very or somewhat important, a percentage higher than that of the male students (88%, 161/184 for Question 3 and 87%, 160/184 for Question 4 – one student did not reply to the question about gender). For questions 5 and 6, although again both male and female students indicated their belief that citation was necessary, the chi square tests indicated that the female students placed a higher emphasis on this importance, with the p-values being 0.015 and 0.026 respectively. The author apologizes for any misunderstandings it may have caused readers. However, the author declares that the mistake does not affect the legitimacy of the paper.

Additionally, the author wishes to report that an abridged version of this study appears in his university section’s in-house (kiyo) journal’s 2013 issue: Wheeler (2013) Survey on Sapporo Medical University student attitudes regarding the necessity of citing sources. Journal of Center of Medical Education 4:27-32. This study examines data gathered from students at the author’s university, whilst the IJEI study expands upon this and includes data gathered from students at several additional universities.