

MSKCC Letter of Resignation

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To:

Andrew Vickers, Ling Chen
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Department of Biostatistics & Epidemiology

Dear Andrew & Ling,

It has been an excellent 4 years and 1 month at MSKCC. I do not think things could have gone any better. In my initial interview with Andrew, several things were touched upon. Andrew mentioned that he wanted at least 2 years from me, and promised in joining I would have a good career. I hope I have provided double the satisfaction, and I want to acknowledge that you both, truly, have played an oversized role in living up to that promise. In that same interview, I had also asked for 2 things in return: mentorship and impact. The only 2 things that matter, and both of which I received in spades. Mentorship is unquantifiable, as apparent and yet natural as air when sharing company with wise people. Impact, however, is tangible:

Dear Shaun,

I like your implementation of the `dcurves` package in Python, and have been routinely using it for the skin cancer diagnostics test we are developing at Kahu www.kahu.ai.

Currently, I am looking into plotting net interventions avoided, but this is not supported by `dcurves`. I was hoping to do a pull request and implement it myself. Unfortunately, the package does not seem to be available in Github. Would it be possible for you to add net interventions avoided as one of the options in the `dcurves.dca` function, as is done for R, Stata and SAS, see <https://www.danielsjoberg.com/dca-tutorial/dca-tutorial-r.html>.

I am happy to add the feature myself if you tell me where I can find the source code.

Best regards,

You would think impact is something felt by others, but what I learned is that it's actually felt deepest by the parties making it. Another lesson learned from that email is that even a barebones, imperfect implementation of something useful is worth putting out there.

I hope for all I received, I was able to reciprocate in full. After discussing with Nate & Ling, my last day on the team is Friday, May 9th. Thanks again!

Shaun