

From: **ASIJ Board Chair** <bjohnson@asij.ac.jp>
Date: Wed, Apr 27, 2016 at 3:56 PM
Subject: Re: Moyer Abuse Case - Unfinished Business
To: David Bruns <davidrbruns@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Bruns,

The Board of Directors has considered and discussed your latest letters. We acknowledge your long involvement in the issue of how to respond to Jack Moyer's serial abuse of ASIJ students and appreciate the emotional support your efforts provided to the Sisters while we as an institution grappled with this, coming at last to a position we think is both transparent and responsible.

We sadly acknowledge that the record regarding both Moyer's crimes and the school's lack of response will never be complete because of the passage of time and the deaths of several key witnesses, including school officials, and, most importantly, Moyer himself. Until recently, the school had no procedures in place to collect and assimilate truly essential information when, years apart, several of the students and former students bravely reported what had happened to them. From the beginning of their involvement with ASIJ's efforts to keep safe current and future students, the Sisters rightfully demanded that ASIJ ensure that: (1) students had ways to report abuse and the training and encouragement to do so, (2) ASIJ should have rigorous procedures in place to investigate fully any such report, and (3) everything be documented and the record preserved. We have made huge strides in this regard and will not falter.

We also understand and share your anguish over the possibility that Jack Moyer victimized children not connected with ASIJ and ASIJ's programs. As survivors themselves, the Sisters feel this particularly strongly, and one of the promises we made to them in Portland - and fulfilled - was to have the materials on the case translated and passed through the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the appropriate office of the National Police Agency to give them a starting point to take any actions required, from investigation and imposing criminal sanctions to outreach and assistance to victims who were not at ASIJ.

The Board of Directors of ASIJ does acknowledge other "unfinished business." The focus of the Board is to build on the substantial progress ASIJ has made in keeping its students safe. In a sense, this will always

remain unfinished business because there can never be a moment where we can declare “That’s it. We’ve done all we can do.” The Sisters have been an amazing resource, and their recent visit gave us several more recommendations. ASIJ treasures this association, acknowledges a continuing debt, and will assist them as a group or individually however we can. Additional victims have come forward and are receiving support from the school, but to protect their confidentiality the school will not be publicly disclosing or reporting their numbers, identities, or the details of the abuse. We know there are victims who have not come forward, and we stand ready to assist those who do, recognizing that they have every right to choose whether to step forward, and on their own terms and schedule.

Please understand that we are answering your latest letter as a final courtesy as we continue our program of transparency, reconciliation and progress. We understand you are still angry, but the insistence that the Board should correspond with you and be your channel for distributing your dissenting communications is not appropriate. More importantly, the program you demand is neither helpful nor possible: there are no “sanctions” that would or should be applied to individuals involved in this matter, and lashing out would not aid in either reconciliation or progress. The Board has acknowledged this as an institutional failure. When we made decisions about matters such as the renaming of the ASIJ theater and other similar actions, the purpose was not to punish, but to remove a source of pain and a potential obstacle to reconciliation. This is the healing we think the community deserves, and it was beautifully apparent in the Sister’s visit.

On their visit, the Sisters pointed out that there was a devastating amount of work to be done on a society-wide basis to stop childhood abuse and sexual violence, from abolishing unrealistic and unfair statutes of limitation to providing real help to victims. People like you who are determined to make a difference can do so. Thank you again for the positive role you played as the Sisters and the larger ASIJ community came together, bringing us to this point, and we wish you well.

Sincerely,

Brian Johnson,

The ASIJ Board of Directors, and

The ASIJ Trustees