Response to Alex Young

Andrew Bird¹ and Stephen A. Karolyi²

First, we are excited to see that, like Mozaffar Khan, Suraj Srinivasan, and Liang Tan (2017) and Shuping Chen, Ying Huang, Ningzhong Li, and Terry Shevlin (2018), Alex Young has successfully replicated our main findings on the effect of institutional ownership on tax avoidance behavior. We are thrilled that many interested researchers have pursued follow-up studies to ours.

Second, in light of Alex’s accusation, we have reviewed the series of drafts that we submitted during the publication process at The Accounting Review during 2015 and 2016. In doing so, we identified a potentially confusing description of our methodology, which was introduced during the final iteration of copy editing at The Accounting Review. This description conflicted with our correct and clear description of our methodology elsewhere in the published version of the paper. Nevertheless, this error apparently created confusion about the relationship between tabulated estimates from a 2015 working paper version of our paper and the 2017 published version. The methodology did not change, and, thus, the tabulated estimates did not change either.

In an attempt to mitigate future confusion for especially interested readers of our paper, we have requested to make a clarification in The Accounting Review.

References


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**About the Authors**

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