

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC PERSONNEL (CAP)
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)
Revised November 1, 2008

23. Are the names of extramural referees in fact held in confidence?

Yes. CAP has no direct evidence of breaches of this confidence except, perhaps, for those personnel cases that have gone to court. Gossip on this subject abounds; our impression is that authorship of these letters is generally held in confidence. The authors of letters are urged not to betray themselves as authors in the body of the letter. However, revealing comments probably account for most cases in which the reviewed faculty member learns of the author's identity.