TA: Lily Byerly
Student: Haley Troy
March 11, 2013
Assignment #1: Neurobiology of Depression

Dear Haley,

This paper was particularly difficult for multiple reasons: you needed to include a fair amount of background information, the article did not fully explain its reasoning, there were multiple things all influencing each other, and you were writing about a disease for which little is known. You have worked hard to make this a successful paper despite all of these challenges, and I think that the resulting paper *is* rather successful. I think you should be proud of your work, and hopefully you will carry some confidence on to your next paper!

This paper has improved greatly since your first draft, particularly in terms of clarity. By including clear explanations and topic sentences geared towards uninformed readers, you have made it much easier to read and understand. Adding two additional authors also helped solidify your argument and clarify your points. For your portfolio, you can work on making it even clearer, especially around pages 3 and 4. I think that it will help to have some distance from this paper before you come back to it; distance often helps reveal confusing sentences or explanations.

Your work on the organization of the paper paid off; the paragraphs flow logically and rely upon previously stated information. The introduction paragraphs are particularly helpful in giving necessary background information while also supporting your argument. For your portfolio, the paragraph in the middle of page 4 could be split up. Moving the first sentence up and moving the second sentence to the beginning of the next paragraph will help the flow of the paper. I also think that moving the explanation of how serotonin works on page 4 to the paragraph on page 3 will help with clarity and flow. Finally, the conclusion has a nice message and has improved greatly, but could benefit from a stronger first and last sentence.

Your paper has improved greatly since the first draft and I hope that you will take what you have learned into the next paper. You have done a nice job with this paper, and I know that you will keep improving on future papers!

Sincerely,

Lily