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**From:** Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2018 3:49 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: URGENT: BuzzFeed News inquiry re allegations of sexual harassment by Lawrence Krauss

The correspondence from Ron Lindsey to Pete Aldhous.

Director, The Origins Project at ASU  
Foundation Professor  
School of Earth & Space Exploration and Physics Department Arizona State University, P.O. Box 871404,  
Tempe, AZ 85287-404 Assistant (Jessica): [REDACTED] <tel:[REDACTED]> Origins Office  
(Cynthia):&nbs=[REDACTED] <tel:[REDACTED]> <ont color="#000000">[REDACTED] <mailto:[REDACTED]>  
&nsp[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ronald Lindsay <[REDACTED] <mailto:[REDACTED]>>  
Date: February 26, 2018 at 7:07 AM PST  
To: [REDACTED] <mailto:[REDACTED]>  
Subject: Fwd: Fwd: URGENT: BuzzFeed News inquiry re allegations of sexual harassment by Lawrence Krauss

My correspondence with Aldhous. As usual, read from the bottom up.

----- Forwarded message -----  
From: Ronald Lindsay <[REDACTED] <mailto:[REDACTED]>>  
Date: Mon, Dec 11, 2017 at 7:21 AM  
Subject: Re: Fwd: URGENT: BuzzFeed News inquiry re allegations of sexual harassment by Lawrence  
Krauss<=r>To: Peter Aldhous <[REDACTED] <mailto:[REDACTED]>>

Dear Mr. Aldhous,

Adam Isaak resigned because I had a public spat with his girlfriend, Rebecca Watson, who had issued a public call for CFI employees to quit. (That dispute is a whole other story, tangential to your Krauss piece, so I will not get into it here.)

Timing is important here. The email from Pat was in March. The dispute with Watson started in mid-May, after which Adam stopped showing up for work. (He said he was sick & then went on vacation, or vice versa). He then then left some time in June. If the Krauss matter "pushed [him] over the edge," then he was tenaciously hanging on to the ledge for a few months.

The email from Pat Beauchamp was in the first person and Pat indicated she was speaking for herself. (I found the email exchange last night; I will forward it to you.) Adam had never been shy about expressing his concern to me -- he asked for raises, complained about the hosts on the podcast he was producing etc. The notion that he and Pat were working together but that he decided he could not reveal his participation is difficult to credit.

I will be traveling to my home this evening. Plan to reach my home by 7:45, but if I don't answer right away, please try a bit later. My number is: [REDACTED] <tel:[REDACTED]> .

Sincerely,  
R. Lindsay

On Sun, Dec 10, 2017 at 10:45 PM, Peter Aldhous <[REDACTED]>  
<mailto:[REDACTED]> > wrote:

Dear Mr. Lindsay,

Thank you for your response, which we will consider in detail. Shall we speak at 7.45pm Eastern tomorrow? Do let me know what number to call.

To answer your question, the CFI employee who resigned was Adam Isaak. He told us that he helped Patricia Beauchamp draft an email to you outlining their concerns about inviting Lawrence Krauss on the 2014 cruise.

He explained that his resignation had a broader context, relating to his concerns about sexism and online harassment in the skeptical movement. But he said that CFI's continued embrace of Krauss, in the face of concerns expressed by staff, was what "pushed me over the edge."

Sincerely,

Peter Aldhous

On 12/10/17 7:27 PM, Ronald Lindsay wrote:

Dear Mr. Aldhous,

Let me note a couple of things at the outset. First, I would be happy to speak to you regarding the allegations in your email. You can reach me at my cell phone number, which is [REDACTED]

<tel: [REDACTED]> . However, I am unavailable tomorrow (Monday) because of prior commitments until approximately 7:45 PM.

=ext, you should know that I'm not an employee of CFI nor do I have any authority to speak on behalf of CFI. I'm writing to you from my personal email account in part to underscore that point. I do retain a CFI email address in part as a courtesy to me and in part because it serves a business purpose (for example, I still receive occasional emails addressed to the president of the organization).

=urning to the substance of your allegations, first you should be aware that I take the issue of sexual harassment very seriously. This is confirmed by the fact that after I was hired by CFI as its in-house lawyer (a position I held prior to becoming president and CEO) I insisted that the organization adopt a comprehensive zero-tolerance harassment policy covering workplace harassment. Moreover, during the time I was president and CEO we had three separate state trainings for the entire staff on sexual harassment issues. In addition, where necessary, we did not hesitate to expend significant resources, including retaining outside investigators, to conduct serious, detailed inquiries into harassment claims. One such inquiry cost the organization over \$40,000. Therefore, any suggestion that I do not personally take harassment claims seriously is amply disconfirmed by my record.

=egarding the alleged incident on the 2011 cruise, the first I became aware of it was when Pat Beauchamp, CFI's business manager and the employee responsible for cruise logistics, wrote to me in 2013 indicating she objected to inviting Lawrence Krauss on our upcoming Galapagos cruise. I found this strange, and I responded to her almost immediately asking the reasons for her objection. She gave two reasons. The first was that Krauss did not pay sufficient attention to the guests on the 2011 cruise. I had heard this concern from one guest myself; on the other hand, I also heard from several guests that they thought Krauss's presentations were excellent and a highlight of the cruise. Accordingly, I did not give this concern much weight.

=he second reason was that Krauss had allegedly asked a female guest on the cruise to join him and his partner, apparently for some sort of sexual activity (I cannot recall whether Krauss was engaged or married or just seriously involved with his female companion at the time, although they were clearly romantically involved and seemed very much in love). This is the first I had heard of this proposition. No complaint by the guest or anyone else had been made to me at the time of the cruise, although I was on the cruise and clearly visible throughout the cruise.

= asked Ms. Beauchamp for contact information for this guest. I did call the guest and she substantially confirmed what Ms. Beauchamp had said. I apologized on behalf of the organization. The guest indicated although she was taken aback by Krauss's proposition at the time, she did not want to pursue the matter further. I then got in contact with Krauss. Krauss denied the allegation. In light of the guest's reluctance to pursue the matter and Krauss's own denial and, importantly, because between the time of the 2011 cruise and the Galapagos cruise we had instituted a policy regarding harassment at any CFI event, which covers not just employees, but speakers and attendees, I decided to go ahead with my plan and have Krauss as a speaker on the Galapagos cruise. Krauss was fully aware of our harassment policy regarding CFI events because we had had a discussion about it. Therefore, I expected him to comply with that policy on the Galapagos cruise. As far as I know he did, because we received no complaints about his conduct. Nor have we received any complaints about his conduct at other events.

=et me just take a moment to highlight the 2012 policy, which you can find in full here, [http://www.centerforinquiry.net/blogs/entry/cfis\\_new\\_policy\\_on\\_hostile\\_conduct\\_harassment\\_t\\_conferences/](http://www.centerforinquiry.net/blogs/entry/cfis_new_policy_on_hostile_conduct_harassment_t_conferences/) along with the announcement I made explaining the rationale for the policy. This policy was, certainly at its time, arguably the strongest any nonprofit organization had regarding conduct at its events. Again, this policy shows that any suggestion that CFI, as an organization, or that I personally took a lax attitude regarding harassment is completely without factual foundation.

=n your email you mentioned that one staffer resigned after I invited Krauss on the Galapagos cruise. I'm not aware of any staffer resigning because of that. If you give me a name I could comment on the

reasons for the staffer leaving. Ms. Beauchamp remained an employee of CFI (and went on the Galapagos cruise with Krauss).

=ou mentioned also the comments that were made to me in March 2012 by Melody Hensley. Let me give you the background for that. CFI was holding an event prior to the 2012 Reason Rally in DC. Richard Dawkins, Jessica Alquist, Jamie Raskin, and Lawrence Krauss were scheduled to speak at the event. Melody Hensley was heavily involved in the planning for the event and in fact was tapped to make introductions for the speakers, including Krauss. (At the time she was in charge of the DC local branch.) During the planning for the event she gave no indication whatsoever that she had any hesitation about introducing or dealing with Krauss. (I will forward you some email correspondence confirming this.)

=s I recall, Krauss's schedule resulted in his planned arrival being a little later than the others. As it turned out, he was even further delayed. At some point when it became clear that Krauss was going to be late, Hensley turned to me and said, "I know why Kra=ss isn't coming; he's embarrassed to see me." I asked Hensley what she mea=t by this. She said Krauss had made a pass at her several years earlier and she had rebuffed him. I asked for some details. She said she was in a hotel room with him (I can't recall whether she said it was Krauss's hotel room, but I t=ink it was), and that Krauss tried to kiss her. She pushed him away and said she wasn't interested. I asked if Krauss persisted; she said he did not. Thinking out loud, I believe I said something to the effect of 'well, if you want t= make a complaint you probably can, although I'm not sure our policy at that time w=uld cover that.' Ms. Hensley said she was not interested in making a formal complaint.

=s. Hensley's statement that I "responded to her with silence" is absolutely false and I categorically and= unqualifiedly deny it. We talked about her concern, as indicated. Ms. Hensley'= recall must be failing her.

=iven the passage of time (six years), the fact that Hensley did not want to pursue the matter, the fact that Krauss desisted when Hensley indicated she wasn't interested, the fact th=t Hensley didn't even seem very bothered by the incident (as indicated, she had expressed no hesitation in seeing Krauss), and the fact that we had no policy covering conduct by nonemployees back in 2006 (in fact, CFI's zero-toler=nce policy covering employees themselves was not implemented until 2007, I believe -- I was just hired as the attorney in July 2006), I decided not to do any further about this particular incident. However, the incident, along with observations I heard at the Women in Secularism conference which we held later in the spring of 2012 (observations which did not mention Krauss, but rather some speakers at non-CFI events), was a factor in my thinking about the need for a policy covering conduct by invited speakers and guests at CFI conferences.

=s. Hensley made no other complaint to me about Krauss, nor did she ever express to me her belief that we should not invite Krauss to events.

=n closing, let me state that any accusations stating that I neglected to take harassment complaints seriously are false. Furthermore, I would regard them as a malicious attack on my character and my professional reputation.

=incerely,

=onald A. Lindsay

----- Forwarded message ----- From: Ronald Lindsay

Date: Sun, Dec 10, 2017 at 8:13 PM

Lawrence Krauss

Subject: URGENT: BuzzFeed News inquiry re allegations of sexual harassment by

To: [REDACTED] <mailto:[REDACTED]>

Mr. Lindsay:

I'm a reporter for BuzzFeed News who has been investigating sexual misconduct allegations against Lawrence Krauss.

The story concerns Krauss's actions towards students while a professor of physics at Case Western Reserve University, as well as his conduct in non-academic settings as a prominent figure in the skeptics movement. I am reporting this story along with two of my colleagues on the science desk, Aileen Ghorayshi and Virginia Hughes.

Our story is about several allegations of sexual misconduct dating from 2006 to 2016. Our reporting also goes into how the various institutions Krauss has been affiliated with — Case Western, Arizona State University, the Australian National University, the New College of the Humanities and the Center for Inquiry, for which you formerly served as president — have handled complaints and concerns about his behavior during this time.

Our story is corroborated by emails, university documents, official complaints, testimony from victims and witnesses, and interviews with more than two dozen of Krauss's current and former academic colleagues, students, and peers in the skeptics movement.

I am writing to you now because you are personally named in the story, and because you had executive responsibility for CFI's actions during the time of some of the alleged incidents.

I wanted to offer you the opportunity to comment and/or respond to the main facts we plan to publish regarding your involvement as the former head of CFI during this time. If you wish to comment on any of these findings, we need to hear from you as soon as possible. We are planning on publishing our story Tuesday morning US Eastern Time.

Based on our reporting so far, this is what we plan to publish that concerns you:

\* One incident involving Krauss allegedly occurred in May 2011 on a CFI cruise <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qnrP8B-IKxE>> .

\* Attendees had paid several thousand dollars to join a cultural tour of the Greek islands, featuring lectures from scientists and writers, including Krauss.

\* Krauss allegedly propositioned a female cruise-goer, who rejected an invitation to join him and his female companion for sex in their cabin.

\* No complaint was made, but the incident was reported to a CFI staffer at the time.

\* CFI's leadership continued to embrace Krauss, making him [an honorary member of its board of directors in December 2011.](https://www.centerforinquiry.net/newsroom=krauss_named_honorary_board_member/)

\* But at least two staffers were sufficiently concerned about reports of Krauss's behavior that they urged you not to invite him on a 2014 cruise [of the Galápagos Islands.](http://action.centerforinquiry.net/site/MessageViewer?em_id=49328.0)

\* In June 2013, after you rejected their advice and invited him on the cruise, one of those staffers resigned.

\* At a conference in March 2012, another woman, who at that point was also an employee of CFI, told you about an incident in 2006 in which Krauss forcibly kissed and groped her in a hotel room. According to this woman, after she told you about this in person, you responded to her with silence.

\* The woman later told two other employees in CFI's management about the incident, and expressed her discomfort at having Krauss continue to speak at events.

\* CFI continued to book Krauss as a speaker at its events.

Again, if you wish to comment on or clarify any of these points, please get in touch with us as soon as possible. If I do not respond immediately it is because I am on another call, so please leave the best phone number to reach you.

Thanks,

Peter Aldhous

[REDACTED] <tel:[REDACTED]>

[REDACTED] <tel:[REDACTED]>

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Peter Aldhous, PhD

Science reporter | BuzzFeed News

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