
From: Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 4:38 AM
To: jeffrey E.
Subject: Re: CLARIFICATION: response to your email

did we talk after this?

Lawrence M. Krauss
Director, The Origins Project at ASU
Co-Director, Cosmology Initiative
Foundation Professor
School of Earth & Space Exploration and Physics Department Arizona State University, P.O. Box 871404, Tempe, AZ
85287-1404 Research Office [REDACTED] | Assistant (Jessica): [REDACTED] Origins Office (Cynthia): [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] =nbsp;
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On Feb 13, 2018, at 6:41 PM, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

call me

On Tue, Feb 13, 2018 at 9:29 PM, Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>
wrote:

Lawrence M. Krauss
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Begin forwarded message:

From: Lawrence Krauss <lawkrauss@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: CLARIFICATION: =esponse to your email

Date: February 13, 2018 at 4:24:45 PM =ST

To: Peter Aldhous [REDACTED]

The email from Neil that I sent you is the only one generated =rom the Director in this regard. There is no document I have =eceived from Perimeter confirming either the false hearsay claim you =ave already made, or this new claim of yours. As I have been =nvited back numerous times by colleagues there in the interim, =mpirical evidence suggests otherwise. If there had been any such =ormal complaint and investigation and decision, I would have heard =bout it, or been asked to participate in it. Your source has =lready demonstrated they have lied once about my "immediate =moval and banning". So unless you have some positive documentary =vidence, this s a false allegation.

It was also your professional =bligation to investigate allegations, other than just make them, but in =very case I have done your investigating for you, when you could have =iscovered the numerous claims were false if you had tried. You =emonstrated no interest in accurate reporting or in standard =ournalistic standards, nor have you demonstrated any interest in the =efinition of sexual harassment in making many unrelated defamatory =laims against me. Enough.

LMK

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On Feb 13, 2018, at 2:54 PM, Peter Aldhous [REDACTED]

<mailto:[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dr. =rauss:

It is my professional =bligation, when reporting on allegations like these, to seek comment =nd clarification.

Thank you for sending the =mail from Neil Turok. We have raised this with the Perimeter Institute, =hich has clarified its position, as follows:

*
During the =vent, a sexual harassment complaint was filed with the administration =gainst you.

*
In 2012, as part of a =ormal review of its internal policies, the institute made a decision =hat you would not be invited to return.

If you wish =o further comment on or clarify any of these points, please get in =ouch with us by tomorrow (Weds).

Thanks,
Peter Aldhous =/span>

On 2/12/18 =:20 AM, Lawrence Krauss wrote:

Although I wasn't going to bother =nd shouldn't need to, just one example among many: in this case =7 months after Q2C, email from the Director of the Perimeter Institute. = don't know how it could be much clearer.. (I have redacted out =he rest of the body of the letter because it refers to a hiring issue =hat is irrelevant to you)..

Now some questions you need to answer:

1. Is it appropriate for journalists to repeatedly require explicit evidence from someone in order to defend themselves from false allegations, but at the same time be willing to accept false claims against others on face value if it confirms what they want to hear when writing a story?
2. Does such a low standard of journalistic integrity hurt efforts to address real problems?
3. Isn't repeatedly attempting to promote and disseminate false or damaging claims or rumors about someone harassment?
4. Would you argue that offending someone is equivalent to harassment?
5. After so many false and/or inappropriate allegations, do you see a pattern emerging? Perhaps there is an interesting, and real, story there.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Neil Turok" [REDACTED]

Subject: Holden XXX

Date: March 31, 2011 at 9:30:26 AM MST

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Larry,

I hope you're doing very well. It was nice to have you at PI for the Q2C Festival and I do hope you'll be able to visit again soon.

I'm writing in regard to Holden XX, who I have been working with recently.

With my best wishes,
Neil

On Feb 9, 2018, at 3:04 PM, Lawrence Krauss <lawkrauss@gmail.com> wrote:

Oh yes, definitely and demonstrably.. I dispute everything except the first bullet point, with substantial evidentiary email communication... so you had better alert whoever went on the record at the perimeter institute about the consequences of making false allegations.

LMK

Lawrence M. Krauss
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wrote:

On Feb 8, 2018, at 12:44 PM, Peter Aldhous <[REDACTED]>

Dr. Krauss:

To clarify, we plan to publish each of the following statements, which have all been confirmed on the record by the Perimeter Institute:

*

In October of 2009, you went to Waterloo, Ontario, to be a guest speaker at the Quantum to Cosmos Festival at the Perimeter Institute.

*

During the event, a sexual harassment complaint was filed against you.

*

You were immediately removed from the premises and banned from ever coming back. =/span>

*

The institute would not provide more details to respect the complainant's privacy. =/span>

Do you dispute any of these statements?

If you'd like to further clarify your position on these statements, please contact me before 12 noon Pacific on Saturday, Feb 10.

Peter Aldhous

--

Peter Aldhous

Science reporter | BuzzFeed News

tel:

cell

PGP Fingerprint: 225F B2AF 4B8E 6E3D B1EA 7F9A B96E BF7D 9CB2 =B16

Send =ecure =ips <<https://contact.buzzfeed.com/>>

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<mailto:[REDACTED]> wrote: On Thu, Feb 8, 2018 at 12:00 PM, Lawrence =rauss [REDACTED]

Peter:

Got your phone =all yesterday shortly before I finished a lecture and then headed to =he airport to return home late last night, as I had indicated in my =ast email. I am responding below to your issues, which are yet =gain false and/or misleading. I cannot keep doing this. I have =old you repeatedly that there is no basis for a story here. I =nd others have responded to false allegations, but you and your =olleagues have continued to barrage me, my family, and my colleagues =ith a series of false allegations and innuendo for the past 6 =onths. So it seems you have decided to produce some kind of =efamatory story, independent of evidence to the contrary, and you are =sking me to help you do your work to write it. I don't know =hat else to say. I ask you again to stop this harassment, and not =rite a story based on false and misleading defamatory allegations to =ustify some foregone conclusion that might defame me and/or other =ndividuals or groups, and in the process can hurt genuine efforts by =any of us to address important issues, from encouraging diversity in =TEM education around the world, to fighting ideological efforts that =ndorse sexism, racism, homophobia or attempt to suppress free speech =nd free thought.

LMK

wrote: On Feb 5, 2018, at 9:48 AM, Peter Aldhous [REDACTED]

Dr. Krauss:

Since our =arlier correspondence, further incidents have come to our attention. =ve outlined the details below and would very much like to =nclude your response to each in our story.

—At the Perimeter Institute’s “Quantum to Cosmos” Festival in October 2009, a woman made a formal complaint of sexual harassment against you. The institute immediately removed you from the premises and banned you from ever coming back.

I am not made aware of any formal complaint of sexual harassment against me at Perimeter, which would have resulted in either formal proceedings or letters or emails to me. I did attend the “Quantum to Cosmos” Festival for several days and was never ‘removed from the premises’. After I left I received thanks and further assistance from the staff. Nor was I banned from returning to Perimeter. I have maintained a collegial relationship with various colleagues there who have invited me to return on several occasions.

—Former employees of the Origins Project told us that the working environment sometimes made them feel uncomfortable, partly because of your behavior, which they described as sometimes unprofessional and juvenile. They called you a “sexist” and a “womanizer.”

In particular, they described the following incidents:

* In early 2016, after a transgender panelist for an upcoming event negotiated a higher appearance fee, you joked at a group meeting that “she’s got balls,” two witnesses said.

* During another meeting around that time, you showed off a vaguely suggestive doodle you had made of a woman bent over, two witnesses said.

* “It was like being in a room with a 5-year-old and a 15-year-old boy at the same time,” one former employee said. “He had no filter.”

* At a dinner event at the school’s University Club in October 2015, a 19-year-old undergraduate said she was left feeling acutely uncomfortable when you looked at her from head to toe, smirked, and told her that you liked the short jumper she was wearing. Two witnesses confirmed her account.

* In April 2016, another staffer angrily posted on Facebook about how you “suggested that I should dress up like a hula girl while advertising for an event.”

* Another employee was so upset by your behavior that she started keeping a written record of offensive incidents. “Said he understood why people didn’t like to hire women of child bearing age because it isn’t fair to have to pay maternity benefit,” she wrote in one entry. “Said he’s going to buy me birth control so I don’t get pregnant and inconvenience him. Asked if I was planning to get pregnant.”

I am proud that the Origins Project has been an open and supportive program since it was created. Our team works in a transparent environment of candor and trust, where people can thrive and discuss all issues openly and frankly with mutual respect as part of a safe supportive team. Staff are encouraged to provide feedback and I and my managers have regular meetings with staff to discuss potential problems and concerns. No one has ever brought up complaints along any of these lines to any of us, nor has anyone complained to the University in this regard about any such issues. Quite the contrary.

Further miscellaneous information:

You are politically liberal. In your public appearances, writings, and tweets, you have decried sexism, racism, and homophobia.

You tweet provocatively about subjects including Islam, Muslims, Christianity, and Christians. Recently, you have tweeted links to articles questioning whether the #metoo movement has gone too far.

We also noticed your recent tweet about growing diversity in the skeptic movement. Our own reporting on that issue presents a complex picture.

Several female skeptics, after sharing personal accounts of misogyny and harassment by men in the community, have been subjected to Gamergate-style online attacks, including rape and death threats <<http://skeptichick.org/page-o-hate/>>. In recent years, famous freethinkers have been criticized for their Islamophobia, for cheering the right media personality Milo Yiannopoulos, and for lampooning feminism and gender theory.

* Do you have any comments on the view that parts of the skeptic/atheist movement appear to be sliding into the right?

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 or teaching, so please leave the best phone number to reach you.

Thanks,
Peter Aldhous

Peter Aldhous, PhD
Science reporter | BuzzFeed News
tel: [REDACTED]
cell [REDACTED]

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Peter =ldhous

Science reporter | BuzzFeed News

tel: [REDACTED]
cell [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Send =ecure tips

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Peter Aldhous, PhD
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please note

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