
From: Lawrence Krauss [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 2:29 AM
To: jeffrey E.
Subject: Fwd: CLARIFICATION: response to your email

Importance: High

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
[REDACTED]

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Lawrence Krauss [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: CLARIFICATION: response to your email
Date: February 13, 2018 at 4:24:45 PM PST
To: Peter Aldhous [REDACTED] >


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

It was also your professional obligation to investigate allegations, other than just make them, but in every case I have done your investigating for you, when you could have discovered the numerous claims were false if you had tried. You demonstrated no interest in accurate reporting or in standard journalistic standards, nor have you

demonstrated any interest in the definition of sexual harassment in making many unrelated defamatory claims against me. Enough.

LMK

Lawrence M. Krauss
Director, The Origins Project at ASU
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On Feb 13, 2018, at 2:54 PM, Peter Aldhous <> wrote:

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Dr. Krauss:

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It is my professional obligation, when reporting on allegations like these, to seek comment and clarification.

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

*

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

*

In 2012, as part of a normal review of its internal policies, the institute made a decision that you would not be invited to return.

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

Thanks,
Peter Aldhous



-

On 2/12/18 8:20 AM, Lawrence Krauss wrote:

Although I wasn't going to bother and shouldn't need to, just one example among many: in this case 17 months after Q2C, email from the Director of the Perimeter Institute. I don't know how it could be much clearer.. (I have redacted out the rest of the body of the letter because it refers to a hiring issue that 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" 

Subject: Holden XXX

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

To:  >

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 XXX, 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
<mailto: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

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On Feb 9, 2018, at 12:44 PM, Peter Aldhous <>
wrote:

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.

*

The institute would not provide more details to respect the complainant's privacy.

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

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Peter Aldhous

Science reporter = BuzzFeed News

tel: [REDACTED]

cel: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

On Thu, Feb 8, 2018 at 12:00 PM, Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>

<[REDACTED]> wrote:

Peter:

Got your phone call yesterday shortly before I finished a lecture and then headed to the airport to return home late last night, as I had indicated in my last email. I am responding below to your issues, which are yet again false and/or misleading. I cannot keep doing this. I have told you repeatedly that there is no basis for a story here. I find others have responded to false allegations, but you and your colleagues have continued to

barrage me, my family, and my colleagues with a series of false allegations and innuendo for the past 6 months. So it seems you have decided to produce some kind of defamatory story, independent of evidence to the contrary, and you are asking me to help you do your work to write it. I don't know what else to say. I ask you again to stop this harassment, and not write a story based on false and misleading defamatory allegations to justify some foregone conclusion that might defame me and/or other individuals or groups, and in the process can hurt genuine efforts by many of us to address important issues, from encouraging diversity in STEM education around the world, to fighting ideological efforts that endorse sexism, racism, homophobia or attempt to suppress free speech and free thought.

LMK

On Feb 2, 2018, at 9:48 AM, Peter Aldhous <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dr. Krauss:

Since our earlier correspondence, further incidents have come to our attention. I've outlined the details below and would very much like to include 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 our behavior, which they described as sometimes unprofessional and unenlightened. 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.

*
=9CIt was like being in a room with a 5-year-old and a 15-year-old boy
=t the same time," one former employee said. "He had no =ilter."

*
At a =inner event at the school's University Club in October 2015, a =9-
year-old undergraduate said she was left feeling acutely =ncomfortable when you looked at her from head to toe,
smirked, and told =er that you liked the short jumper she was wearing. Two witnesses =onfirmed her account.

*
In =pril 2016, another staffer angrily posted on Facebook about how you
=E2 suggested that I should dress up like a hula girl while =dvertising for an event."

*
Another employee was so upset by your behavior that she =tarted
keeping a written record of offensive incidents. "<=pan =tyle="font-size:11pt;background-color:rgb(255,255,255);font-
variant-lig=tures:normal;font-variant-east-asian:normal;vertical-align:baseline;white=space:pre-wrap" class="">Said he
understood why people didn't like to =ire women of child bearing age because it isn't fair to have to pay =aternity
benefit," she wrote in one entry. "Said he's =oing to buy me birth control so I don't get pregnant and inconvenience =im.
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 =reated. 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. =nbsp; Staff are encouraged
to provide feedback and I and my managers have regular meetings with staff to discuss potential problems and
concerns. No one =as ever has 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 =he contrary.

Further =iscellaneous information:

You are politically liberal. In your public appearances, =ritings, and tweets, you
have decried sexism, racism, and homophobia. =/span>

You tweet provocatively about subjects including Islam, =uslims, Christianity,
and Christians. Recently, you have tweeted links =o articles questioning whether the #metoo movement has gone too
=ar.

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

Several female skeptics, =fter sharing personal accounts of misogyny and
harassment by men in the community, =ave been subjected to Gamergate-style online attacks, including rape and death
=hreats. In recent years, famous freethinkers have =een criticized for their Islamophobia, for cheering the alt-right media
=ersonality Milo Yiannopoulos, and for lampooning =eminism and gender theory.

*
Do =ou had any comments on the view that parts of the skeptic/atheist
=ovement appear to be sliding into the =lt-right?

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

Thanks,
Peter Aldhous

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Peter Aldhous, PhD
Science reporter | BuzzFeed News

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Peter Aldhous

Science reporter @ BuzzFeed News

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