
From: Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 5:42 PM
To: jeffrey E.
Subject: Re: final draft email

thanks. I will bet you that the COO at least will respond. I would bet you a lot of money, but I would hate to go broke as well as being defamed if I am wrong. :) Sigh.. Lilli just heard he didn't get the job she was up for.. it was down to 2 people in the end.. I feel so badly for her too.. Nashville is damn expensive, and she is trying so hard to get work again. Wonderful week. :)

Lawrence

On Feb 14, 2018, at 10:37 AM, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

yes, but i dont think they will respond. so a call is better this is not academia, this is tabloid

On Wed, Feb 14, 2018 at 12:37 PM, Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>
wrote:

by his, do you mean the email is ok as is? I won't send it till after I call.

On Feb 14, 2018, at 10:34 AM, jeffrey E. <jeevacation@gmail.com> wrote:

ok

On Wed, Feb 14, 2018 at 12:29 PM, Lawrence Krauss <[REDACTED]>
<mailto:[REDACTED]> wrote:

Dear Neil and Michael:

Attached is a copy of some correspondence from Buzzfeed, which has followed on six months of attempts (following on their being contacted by a third party who made a claim regarding a selfie session at an event in Australia that ASU and ANU had previously shown to be false) to produce allegations of sexual harassment by me. Over this period they produced 5 false allegations, primarily off of web claims which I subsequently demonstrated to be false. Nevertheless the harassment by them has continued.

Most recently, Buzzfeed searched for other defamatory examples, and through someone, presumably at Perimeter, received the following claim.

—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.

After I disputed his claim, they came back with the following claim, which they said was in the record by someone from Perimeter:

*

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.

*

I disputed this, and included an email from you, Neil as a demonstration that it was false (I redacted the information that was not relevant to them):

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Neil Turok" <

Subject: Holden =XX

Date: March 31, 2011 at 9:30:26 AM =ST

To: <[REDACTED]>

Dear Larry,

I =ope you're doing very well. It was nice to have you at PI for the Q2C =estival 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 =ith recently ...

With my best wishes,
Neil

Subsequent=to that, Buzzfeed came back with the following:

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

*

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

*

In =012, as part of a formal review of its internal policies, the institute =ade a decision that you would not be invited to =eturn.

I believe this final claim is false, and I would like =onfirmation from you. It may be a fine point, but I believe it is =important. Originally Michael informed me immediately after the =event in 2009 that there was a complaint of inappropriate =ommunication with one of the staff--something I still dispute--but be =hat as it may, he informed me by email that I shoudn't =ommunicate with the staff I had interacted with at the time, and the =atter was then considered closed. Several years later I was =nvited to give another public lecture but your outreach coordinator =ater rescinded the invitation, although I was reimbursed for =hat. As you are aware, I subsequently discussed my concern about =his with Neil in Vancouver in that year, and inquired about exactly =hat it was all about, and informed him that either a formal procedure =o resolve any issue in which I could participate and respond might be =ppropriate, or the matter should be dropped. Neil said he would explore =he matter, and neither he, nor anyone else, ever contacted me following =hat. I have never been informed of anything like Buzzfeed has =laimed. Indeed I have been invited back to Perimeter for scientific =eetings by various colleagues in the intervening years. I =ould find it highly irregular if any formal procedure took place with =uch an outcome without my knowledge or without any due process, and =ithout subsequently informing me, and all evidence I have suggests the =ontrary.

I am very concerned by this claim below, for obvious =easons. First, the original Perimeter source provided false and =efamatory information to Buzzfeed, changing a story only after I =rovided counter-

evidence. The accurate history if there is one, is that there was a complaint from someone at Perimeter about inappropriate communication and that 3 years later a decision was made by the outreach coordinator, perhaps in collaboration with others, not to invite me back at that time for a public lecture. I would like to have your confirm for me that BuzzFeed's claim is incorrect as it stands. I would prefer to leave it at that, but if necessary one could add that there was a report of inappropriate communication with an employee at the event at the time, which I disputed and the matter was closed.

Please confirm my understanding of this issue for me if you will. As you can imagine, making this public is embarrassing for me, BuzzFeed has tried, at every turn, to misrepresent facts in the worst possible light, it is important for me to not allow them to continue to do this with impunity. For example, they contacted my university and asked if there any claims of sexual harassment against me, and though the University explicitly replied there were none from the University, but that there was an external allegation about a remote event that the University had investigated and had discredited (the one I mentioned above) and about which they would therefore not provide further information, BuzzFeed informed me that they intended to report that they contacted the university with a request for information about sexual harassment allegations at ASU and that the University would not give them any information.

Last, while it would not be surprising if BuzzFeed has misinterpreted statements from Perimeter staff just to elicit a response, but if a member of your staff made the original false allegation to BuzzFeed (violating confidentiality in the process I expect) I wanted you to be aware of this possibility, and if necessary act accordingly.

I really appreciate your prompt attention to this request.

Lawrence Krauss
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

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