

Maxie D. Schmidt
maxieds@gmail.com
mschmidt34@gatech.edu

July 13, 2019

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to formally complain about interactions I have had with a faculty member in the department of Computer Science, Margaret Fleck, over this 2019 year. While I was at UIUC completing my graduate degree in Computer Science over 2012-2014, Margaret served as both a preliminary adviser and a TA supervisor for four semesters of CS173. Earlier this year I emailed her at a campus contact address to inquire if she had any additional knowledge about another former lecturer in Computer Science, Jason Zych. The complete email exchange I had with her at that time is attached in printer-friendly format as the message titled "*Curiosity Maybe*".

Having known her at least professionally for almost two years as a graduate student in CS, she began to chat with me and led me to believe that I could confide in her the reason that I wanted to know more information about the former lecturer in CS (from 2004-2005). I stated that I have been the victim of a rape that happened in 2014 which is a difficult and traumatic topic for me to talk about. Further down the email pipeline, I began to ask for her advice on whether reporting the harassment and stalking that Jason put me through on campus over 2004-2005 was still worth filing an administrative complaint about.

I then asked her if she had any information on how to get in touch with an upcoming faculty panel on sexual misconduct issues at UIUC about what had happened to me many years ago. The precise message she sent me as a response is a thinly veiled response to a Facebook post I had made on the WCS page on that site (also attached to this letter). The followup comment I posted made reference to the Stanford Professor, Christine Blasey Ford, who had publicly stated that then Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her decades ago. I expressed inspiration from her bravery in coming forward against this man and for her composure under public brutal attacks and questioning of her on the matter. Margaret's apparent response to this suggestion by me, I believe, is quoted directly below:

I don't have any ties into that committee, nor exactly what it's up to. Matt Ando is a solid citizen. Bruce Rosenstock makes a lot of noise without doing anything useful. I don't know any of the others.

The prior for faculty panels on any topic is that they talk for 6 months and take no meaningful action. With this one, there's an outside chance of them passing a badly thought-out zero-tolerance rule of the sort that would cause real hardship for faculty spouses (e.g. who may wish to finish their education), graduate student couples (one of whom might wish to take an adjunct position while the other finishes up), and similar. And there's a decent chance of setting up a conflict with laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of marital status. But I'm betting my money on no meaningful action.

There are actually plenty of relevant policies already. If you look at the smelly stuff that has recently come out of the UC system, Dartmouth, Rochester, there seem to be two main sticking points. (1) Grad students are reluctant to complain until they've gotten their degree, sometimes not until they have tenure. (2) Administrators try to cover things up, at least until something juicy leaks out into the local media (e.g. [campus newspaper](#)).

Knowing her demeanor from CS173 staff meetings years back, I would like to briefly interpret what I have come to understand she meant by her remarks. In making these cold and cutting remarks at the end of the message, she meant to imply that if I wanted any recourse for the sexual misconduct in my case, certainly within the CS department, I might as well take it to the local newspaper to see if anyone there would actually care enough to respond to this story.

I feel that I need not go into too much of the obvious details of why this sort of reckless and irresponsible remark coming from a CS professor of her stature is not to be tolerated by codes of conduct at the University of Illinois. I am outraged and disgusted and made physically sick by her reaction to the fact that I had been raped by this man. I expect that the relevant attached documents are sufficient to explain any further context that need be clarified with respect to the development of these email exchanges. The last email chain cited as the message "Logorrhea" which is an exchange I more recently used to communicate and clarify positions I have received on my experiences here by other UIUC faculty members. If you feel that you need more information from me about these email events, please do not hesitate to contact me at the email addresses listed on the letterhead.

I sincerely hope that you all will find these remarks by Margaret Fleck as vicious, mean-spirited, atrocious, and offensive as I have, and furthermore that she will be disciplined as a staff member of the University of Illinois acting on her campus email account. I also sincerely hope that you all will be able to resolve this matter internally, as I feel that if left as is, the implied negligence by choice here could potentially endanger the well-being of other past and current students on campus. Additionally, at Georgia Tech, where I am currently a graduate student, all faculty and staff receive mandatory training on responding to reports of sexual violence on and around campus. While I am not familiar with the corresponding set of policies at UIUC for reporting these malicious acts, I am certain that she has neglected to act as an intended safe barrier and advocate for my case when she learned of it approximately six months ago.

[illegible]

Like · Reply · 25w



Like · Reply · 25w



Write a comment...





M. D. Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Curiosity Maybe

21 messages

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: mfleck@illinois.edu

Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 1:48 AM

Dear Margret,

I am now a Ph.D. student at GA Tech in Atlanta. I realize we were not close over my four semesters as graduate TA for CS173. I'm still curious as to your perspective on this post

<https://www.quora.com/Who-is-Jason-Zych-Why-was-he-fired-from-UIUC-years-ago>

and this FaceBook post:

<https://www.facebook.com/illinoisWCS/posts/2729496127068295>.

I tried contacting Sam Kamin who was serving in the academic office in 2005-2006 when I first took leave from UIUC to no apparent response. Jason threatened my GPA over his class at that time, which is bar none why I withdrew from it without issue in the deans office. Please tell me that you, like Cinda for example, would have the female equivalent of the kahones necessary to speak freely on this topic...

Looking forward to a vivid intellectual response as always.

Maxie

<http://people.math.gatech.edu/~mschmidt34/>

Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>
To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 8:16 AM

Good on being in their PhD program. I had wondered where you had ended up. Hope that's going well.

I've got no insight into Jason Zych. I think he was still here when we arrived at UIUC in 2004, but he left fairly soon afterwards. Remember that my youngest was born at the start of 2005, so I was very distracted for a while after that. But I don't remember hearing much at the time, which would fit with having left under some kind of cloud.

Margaret

[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 9:11 AM

Margaret,

Ok, well that answers some of my questions right there. He's not a nice guy despite the spiffy lecturer personality some people in CS at UIUC still like to believe he was.

I just finished (I believe, grading tbd) my last qual in algebra last week. We shall see...

Nice to hear from you again.

Maxie

[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 4:45 AM

You would know the procedures and territory with fundamental issues of respect for women in CS from male faculty better than I do for navigational purposes. Unfortunately, when I had to put up with this sort of BS as an undergrad at UIUC either there were not enough strong female professors around that could have squashed this man like a dung beetle (say). That or this just genuinely flew under the radar. I have heard from a second respectable source who would have been around UIUC for longer before you and David arrived that Jason's issues, generalized rudeness disorder, and disrespect for female undergrads in CS is not unheard of let's say.

To be honest, Sam Kamin (worked in the academic office from 2005-2006) and even Lenny Pitt have always been unusually unkind to me administratively. I always figured this had something to do with backroom boys and cigars only gossip of one variant of another. Or some genuinely huge (pardon) asswipe like Jason Zych covering his ass in public (boys only club in private) for his own devices.

Do you think it would be worth saying something, or making a formal complaint retroactively this far after he was on faculty at UIUC? Any nuances you can foresee with something like this? I just get sick when men with no attempt to even read into what the tag #MeToo means have this bad reaction to any dissenting opinions as to how fantastic they remember him to be from college, which to be honest may well constitute the best years of *their* lives for many. Personally, and I will tread lightly on this, I cannot believe that administration "let" Cinda leave for one reason or another without just giving her an undeniably better offer than UBC. How are you all planning to replace someone like that for the undergrad program at UIUC these days?

Maxie

[Quoted text hidden]

postmaster@mx.uillinois.edu <postmaster@mx.uillinois.edu>
To: maxieds@gmail.com

Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 8:46 AM

Delivery is delayed to these recipients or groups:

mfleck@uillinoisedu.mail.onmicrosoft.com

Subject: Re: Curiosity Maybe

This message hasn't been delivered yet. Delivery will continue to be attempted.

The server will keep trying to deliver this message for the next 1 days, 19 hours and 59 minutes. You'll be notified if the message can't be delivered by that time.

Diagnostic information for administrators:

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mfleck@uillinoisedu.mail.onmicrosoft.com

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Thu, 24 Jan 2019 01:45:42 -0800 (PST)
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Date: Thu, 24 Jan 2019 04:45:31 -0500
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 **noname**
6K

Margaret Fleck <mfleck@uillinois.edu>
To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 12:45 PM

Maxie,

It's probably not useful to file a complaint at this stage. The folks involved are gone or (Lenny) about to be, so there's not much you can do to them. Save your energy for fighting the current battles, e.g. wherever you are.

The administration that let Cinda leave is UIUC, not CS. At the time, UIUC didn't have the ability to make multi-year offers to non-tenure track folks. Even now, it's only barely possible. That makes it hard to retain/recruit teaching faculty who don't have strong ties (e.g. a spouse or parents) to the town.

The backroom politics in this department wasn't and isn't a simple gender split. E.g. Lenny was extremely close to Cinda.

Margaret
[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@uillinois.edu>

Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 4:21 PM

Margaret,

I'm glad that Cinda leaving was out of the CS dept control. I'm sure many of her other students over the years would feel the same way knowing about a few more administrative details.

I trust that I have your discretion and that you will choose not to share the next details with others. So I will speak more freely about a couple of things.

I am still suffering from horrendous panic attacks and PTSD that stem from a rape that I was the victim of around 2014. I have gotten to the point where this anxiety is affecting me so much that I am needing to take this semester off from GA

Tech. I have great family support and everyone here (peers, professors, administration) are very supportive and on board with keeping me as healthy as possible. Not only do they want me to succeed, but to the point where they will not *let me* fail. Which is to say that my battles of note in Atlanta are somewhat limited in scope at school and work.

I filed a police report today (which will eventually cross multiple jurisdictions) about Jason and stalking. It makes me very, very angry when a pissant like Jeff Erickson chooses to defend the golden boy legacy of this man to the point that others will event chime in with him on Quora (where Jeff is now reigning King). I could not get Jeff to even acknowledge a follow-up comment I made after I saw some subsequent support for what a great guy Jason must surely have been, justified roughly along the lines of "because everyone says so". The #MeToo tag is no joke or laughing matter in this discussion. I would expect that someone of Jeff's experience and certainly title should be more sensitive and concerned about something like this. To be honest, the nicest thing I feel like you can do for me besides offer genuine candor is to arrange for a large set of intensive committees to be dumped on his head with respect to how important and sensitive the issues that women in CS / Eng / Math / Sciences face are just by virtue of their gender. This might incidentally also give him something better to do with his time post-tenure besides writing sloppy repetitive Quora Digest posts!

I really do not mean to direct my frustrations at you. Sorry if it came across that way. Have a good dinner or snack or something.

Maxie

[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 10:58 PM

It occurred to me that you are the only woman who heard what I disclosed to you in the last email who didn't immediately say "I'm so sorry" and "of course I will keep that in for Marion confidential" on impact. It leads me to wonder whether you're really a man underneath it all. Is it true?

[Quoted text hidden]

Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>
To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 11:29 PM

<smile>

I'm genuinely not as good at some of the chit-chat. Also, the first couple weeks of the term have been chaos, which means I've got way too many emails sitting in my inbox.

I tend to have a strong focus on what strategy will get the most useful outcome. You're taking the most important action, which is getting support for the lingering psychological problems. In terms of other action (e.g. police reports), have a clear plan, know what you're trying to achieve, and carry through on it. From this far away, I can't tell if you're doing the right thing. But you're smart and should be able to figure that out.

I believe the overall statistics are that people tend not to file police reports when they should, with a much smaller number filing reports when they shouldn't.

There are definitely a lot of people who are nice in some environments and awful in others. Not always guys and there's a lot of different patterns for who they are nice to and who they abuse. Problem faculty members are often nice to their peers and less nice to the students working for them. So I always advise students doing grad school visits to try to talk to the grad students on their own, away from faculty, so that they have an opportunity to be told any bad stuff that they might need to know. In my undergrad department (much smaller), it was clearly understood exactly what prospective grad students needed to be told.

Notice, BTW, that Jeff's off somewhere on sabbatical. So he's going to be responding slowly to everything. He could still be ignoring you specifically, but that's not the only hypothesis. He's also one of the faculty who's chronically overloaded. (The number of students has been rising fast over the last few years and the workload has been landing unequally on certain people.)

Margaret

On 1/27/19 9:58 PM, Maxie Schmidt wrote:

It occurred to me that you are the only woman who heard what I disclosed to you in the last email who didn't immediately say "I'm so sorry" and "of course I will keep that in for Marion confidential" on impact. It leads me to

wonder whether you're really a man underneath it all. Is it true?

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

<maxieds@gmail.com <mailto:maxieds@gmail.com>> wrote:

Margaret,

Ok, well that answers some of my questions right there.
He's not a nice guy despite the spiffy lecturer
personality some people in CS at UIUC still like to
believe he was.

I just finished (I believe, grading tbd) my last qual in
algebra last week. We shall see...

Nice to hear from you again.

Maxie

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019, 8:16 AM Margaret Fleck

[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 12:29 AM

Margaret,

I'm also not so good at chit-chat in person historically. I really like it here at Tech and in Atlanta. I feel like I have a lot of people around me who genuinely want to see me through the program and to succeed in general. Taking a little time off now is definitely best for the long term success.

I will just briefly touch on what you said about other events (e.g., police reports). I wouldn't have done it if I hadn't thought it through and had a lot of talk support before it from good close friends here. I didn't report anything that wasn't factual to the detectives and which couldn't be verified by them by records (e.g., vehicle records and travel dates). At any rate, it's their job to investigate and determine what if any recourse is available for events like these. It may seem strange to you that I have had these differing experiences with some former faculty, but then again maybe you just know them through different contexts and situations.

Some verbage you might appreciate, which I learned recently, is the term "[toxic masculinity](#)" for some bad behavior which shows up from time to time in the CS department.

Also, I had an American Mathematical Monthly publication this month (attached for reference) which is a small contribution to a really exclusive journal. Things are looking up and on the horizon for me in terms of my research. You can check over my [GA Tech math website](#) for a complete list of my recent pubs which is starting to get longer and longer :) Good luck with the rest of your term.

Maxie

[Quoted text hidden]

 **Articol-21d.pdf**
174K

Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>
To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 9:01 AM

On 1/27/19 11:29 PM, Maxie Schmidt wrote:

Some verbage you might appreciate, which I learned recently, is the term "toxic masculinity" <<https://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=Toxic%20masculinity>>" for some bad behavior which shows up from time to time in the CS department.

This particular CS department isn't too bad on the toxic masculinity. We have much more of a tradition of passive aggression, especially on the faculty level.

The big issue right now is the overcrowding and, therefore, an increasingly high percentage of kids who freak out about their GPA if they get an A-. You left ahead of the main increase in enrollment, as well as the massive influx of Chinese and out-of-state undergrads. Also somewhat more undergrad women. So the classes look very different from when you were here.

Margaret

Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>
To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 9:05 AM

Cool on the research working well!

Margaret

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 12:55 PM

How do you feel about patent law? My view on posting some old "vintage" cs225 lab code publically on one of my GitHub repos is that there is a clear distinction to be made between authorship and licensing / distribution rights. With this in mind, I have already prepared a readme for Jason's old lab code which explains that I will not take down this code with out express written warning of my violating the UIUC license rights to the code he once authored by a suitably authoritative representative thereof. At any rate, it's not freely available online and it may well be the one piece of the man's tenure at UIUC which is worth remembering which Cinda didn't incorporate into her wonderful takeover of the course years ago. I also have asked Cinda for her implicit blessing on the project, but she's a little slow at text responses on Monday...

Maxie

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Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>
To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 1:06 PM

In theory, UIUC owns the copyright to a lot of lab code, esp. if it's partly written by TAs. However, it's pretty much infeasible for UIUC to do take-down requests, because it would have to go through UIUC's licensing office and it's not worth anyone's time to sort that out. Cinda's staff made a big splash a couple years ago by making a takedown request for code recent enough to be still relevant to current 225 assignments. They had to back down very fast, partly because it made us look stupid and partly because they weren't the actual owners of the code.

The most important thing is not to post code that would tempt current students to plagiarise, i.e. recent enough to be directly useful for the current assignments.

Margaret

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Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 1:17 PM

It's so far beyond relevant that no current instructor would care. The carefully commented STL vector class is something I think should be available publicly for educational reference. I asked Cinda a while back whether Jason had told her she couldn't use his code? She replied that she didn't want any of the man's crap cluttering up her lecture in her own words.

It's too bad that these bits of source have not survived. I believe someone has had this code removed from public sites before. I will not back down on the point quite so easily however. Thanks for the legal advice.

Maxie

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Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 1:38 PM

Have you seen this:

<http://www.news-gazette.com/news/local/2019-01-25/ui-creates-12-member-faculty-panel-review-sexual-misconduct-policies.html>

Can you get me in contact with the committee? I feel like I have some testimony which they really ought look into. BTW, as for credibility, I should point out (that someone may brag to the current boys in the ACM office) that the first Goldwater scholar in the cs departments history at UIUC was a woman. And as I am proud to hold this distinction, there's no way in hell I can possibly, or responsibly, keep my smart mouth shut about this sort of thing anymore.

Maxie

[Quoted text hidden]

Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>
To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 3:18 PM

I don't have any ties into that committee, nor exactly what it's up to. Matt Ando is a solid citizen. Bruce Rosenstock makes a lot of noise without doing anything useful. I don't know any of the others.

The prior for faculty panels on any topic is that they talk for 6 months and take no meaningful action. With this one, there's an outside chance of them passing a badly thought-out zero-tolerance rule of the sort that would cause real hardship for faculty spouses (e.g. who may wish to finish their education), graduate student couples (one of whom might wish to take an adjunct position while the other finishes up), and similar. And there's a decent chance of setting up a conflict with laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of marital status. But I'm betting my money on no meaningful action.

There are actually plenty of relevant policies already. If you look at the smelly stuff that has recently come out of the UC system, Dartmouth, Rochester, there seem to be two main sticking points. (1) Grad students are reluctant to complain until they've gotten their degree, sometimes not until they have tenure. (2) Administrators try to cover things up, at least until something juicy leaks out into the local media (e.g. campus newspaper).

Margaret

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Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 3:30 PM

Again solid points, and thanks. In other words, you think it's better to go through the math people contacts I know to handle this issue with a former CS lecturer, who btw has subtlety, and not so much, stalked me for more years than I care to admit I've been around at 33 now...

FYI: <https://www.groovebags.com>

I've developed a shoe fetish based on this site and it's awesome math gear. Just promise you won't incur David a \$300 bill like I did to my mom the first time you visit. They are nice custom printed shoes, but 1-2 pairs should really do it for the modest woman in math / sci shopper on initial perusal.

Maxie

[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 3:36 PM

7/13/2019

Gmail - Curiosity Maybe

Have these: <https://www.groovebags.com/products/caffeine-molecule-casual-shoes>
Fit of Tom's shoes with better graphics, for example.

[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Sun, Feb 3, 2019 at 12:24 PM

If we could all just get along to the point of it so easily ...

<https://github.com/maxieds/ManuscriptComputationalData/blob/master/misc/other-publicly-funded/poster-boy-materials/README.md>

Enjoy the old code.

[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 7:07 AM

Margaret,

Also, for the record, if there are any inaccuracies that you find, or if for example you don't like the way your name is used in the repo parts that I am responsible for annotating as historical data objects, you can always fill out a friendly pull request for the repo. I (as always) will consider your edits with care and revise / accept if they are better and don't make Jason look better (worse) than he already does. You would typically need to fork, clone, edit, push, and then submit the pull request online to get this done.

Maxie

[Quoted text hidden]



M. D. Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Logorrhea

6 messages

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 12, 2019 at 4:18 PM

To: cinda heeren <cinda.heeren@gmail.com>, Margaret Fleck <mfleck@illinois.edu>

Margaret and Cinda,

I have a few words that I would like to say to the both of you collectively that I do not have to suffer an awkward resulting silent treatment over email twice. Earlier this (late last) year I confided in both of you about something very personal, very painful, and very traumatic for me which was due to my time spent in the UIUC CS department. While you both were initially chatty and at least concerned enough to weigh in and listen to me then. I have realized that due to some commentary online that I made (flaming "security swine" Jeff Erickson, for example), you have both become awkwardly silent and unwilling to engage with me in an occasional one-shot email. I would like to address a few points of potential misconceptions that may lie.

I have come to expect from knowing you both professionally, and at times signs of personally, that the trust and discretion that my revealing these painful events to you both would have been a reasonable investment with people I have not had the best relationships talking to in person for some time. I really, really have this "for shame" reaction at the both of you as upstanding women in CS for shutting me out for this. My suggestion that Margaret drop committee bomb after committee bomb on Jeff's head until he starts acting more like the community leader in CS that portrays on Quora digest was a suggestion. I am not meddling in inter-departmental politicking that may be, but rather communicating with you ladies in a rational tone what grad school (i.e., not so 18 and shy anymore) me understands is commonplace correction of bad professorial behavior.

My reaction to this silent downtime of a communication lapse was to contact my good mentor Bruce in the finer (better) UIUC math department for advice on something my therapist suggested might make me feel better all things considering. That is to say, my 2010 Goldwater scholarship award, which at the time was the first in CS department a Illinois history, is not something I am comfortable attributing to my good times on yonder side of Green Street. I changed to LAS to get my second math degree shortly after that, which incidentally led to Cinda's purported mentor in the academic office snubbing me the first time I met him. So I am in the works of going through the transcript paper push necessary to retroactively move me into the math department before March of 2010. Hence, big (not first) win for the fine math department and its stellar reputation. Now, you all will be able to claim ACM poster boy Justin Kopinsky as your first Goldwater scholar. More fitting for the man anyway.

You two bitches have a lovely weekend, and go worship your respective husbands for me. End of transmission unless you flame me back.

@Margaret Cinda's text number is 217-586-6872. By all means leave me out of this loop. Last year I sent Cinda a UBC warming gift in the form of a Chameleon Mini device. I understand it is still sitting in its box unprogrammed. I think you two should arrange a swap of gear modulo international shipping costs to make use of my awesome paid app.

Sincerely still a little pissed, but feeling better,

Maxie

cinda heeren <cinda.heeren@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 12, 2019 at 4:30 PM

To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Maxie, there is no intended snub. Just an enormously busy life. I do value our personal connection, and speak of you admiringly and affectionately to younger students (when it seems like they need that kind of encouragement). More soon—for some definition of soon!! I'm sorry that I am generAlly slow to respond...you and my mom have similar experiences in that regard.

Not sure what my husband has to do with any of this.

All the best,
Cinda

Sent from my iPhone

[Quoted text hidden]

Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: cinda heeren <cinda.heeren@gmail.com>

Fri, Jul 12, 2019 at 10:27 PM

I had a large scale 3-clonazepam panic attack this morning. Woke up still on edge. Thanks for the quick clarification.

There is a promo code (CF9E3Z26X4XCDDGNDF8J2GK) for the paid version of the app <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.maxieds.chameleonminilivedebugger.paid>. It can be redeemed starting tomorrow.

Maxie

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Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: cinda heeren <cinda.heeren@gmail.com>

Sat, Jul 13, 2019 at 3:06 AM

I will point blank ask you if you think I'm overanalyzing something Margaret said to me in a previous email.

I posted this on January 14: <https://www.facebook.com/plugins/post.php?href=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2FillinoisWCS%2Fposts%2F2729496127068295>

Then on January 18 she replies with this:

I don't have any ties into that committee, nor exactly what it's up to. Matt Ando is a solid citizen. Bruce Rosenstock makes a lot of noise without doing anything useful. I don't know any of the others.

The prior for faculty panels on any topic is that they talk for 6 months and take no meaningful action. With this one, there's an outside chance of them passing a badly thought-out zero-tolerance rule of the sort that would cause real hardship for faculty spouses (e.g. who may wish to finish their education), graduate student couples (one of whom might wish to take an adjunct position while the other finishes up), and similar. And there's a decent chance of setting up a conflict with laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of marital status. But I'm betting my money on no meaningful action.

There are actually plenty of relevant policies already. If you look at the smelly stuff that has recently come out of the UC system, Dartmouth, Rochester, there seem to be two main sticking points. (1) Grad students are reluctant to complain until they've gotten their degree, sometimes not until they have tenure. (2) Administrators try to cover things up, at least until something juicy leaks out into the local media (e.g. [campus newspaper](#)).

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Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>
To: cinda heeren <cinda.heeren@gmail.com>
Cc: Bruce Reznick <bruce.reznick@gmail.com>

Sat, Jul 13, 2019 at 3:18 AM

Sorry, meant to BCC Bruce. Same question.

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Bruce Reznick <bruce.reznick@gmail.com>
To: Maxie Schmidt <maxieds@gmail.com>

Sat, Jul 13, 2019 at 4:10 AM

Maxie -- Wanted to acknowledge receipt of your email. Am speaking in five hours so I can't really focus on this until later today. Sorry. -- Bruce

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