

RE: My frustrations after today's office hours

Griffin, Chris <chris.griffin@gatech.edu>

Mon 9/27/2021 8:00 AM

To: Schmidt, Maxie D <mschmidt34@gatech.edu>

Hello, Maxie,

I am following up on my email of September 9, 2021, as there was no response from you. Please advise if you are able to meet with me regarding the report you made that indicated you may have been subjected to an incidence of sexual misconduct. To let you know, the Title IX Office manages the Institute's Sexual Misconduct Policy, which includes prohibitions against sexual harassment, among other things.

I would like to meet with you to explain the process of filing a complaint under Georgia Tech's Sexual Misconduct Policy, should you wish to file a complaint, as well as to advise you of the availability of supportive measures. Regardless of whether a complaint is filed, you may receive support services, include counseling, advocacy (through VOICE), housing assistance, academic support, disability services, health and mental health services, and other services, as needed. VOICE Advocates, who are confidential victim-survivor support advocates, may be reached at (404) 385-4464 or (404) 385-4451. You will find a list of available support services at <https://titleix.gatech.edu/supportassistance>. Additional information on Title IX at Georgia Tech may be accessed at <https://titleix.gatech.edu/home>.

Please advise if you are available to meet with me via Teams video-chat at one of the following times:
Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 10:00 AM; or
Wednesday, September 29 at 3:00 PM

If you would like, an advisor or support person may accompany you to the Teams meeting. The advisor may be anyone of your choosing, including a VOICE advocate. Should you wish to have an advisor, please provide their email address to me so that a link to the Teams meeting can be sent to them.

Georgia Tech prohibits retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, reports what he or she believes to be misconduct under the Sexual Misconduct Policy, or against anyone who participates in or cooperates with any investigation. The Institute will impose sanctions on any person found to be engaging in retaliation or found to be encouraging third parties to retaliate on their behalf. Please immediately contact the Title IX Coordinator if you believe you are the target of retaliation.

If you have any questions or wish to seek any type of support, please do not hesitate to contact me at 404-385-5583 or chris.griffin@gatech.edu.

Sincerely,
Chris

Chris Griffin, J.D., MSCM
Title IX Coordinator
Institute Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Georgia Institute of Technology
500 10th Street NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0620
404-385-5583

From: Griffin, Chris
Sent: Thursday, September 9, 2021 1:12 PM
To: Schmidt, Maxie D <mschmidt34@gatech.edu>
Subject: RE: My frustrations after today's office hours

Hello, Maxie,

This it to acknowledge receipt of your email regarding an inappropriate assignment by James Wenk,

a graduate student instructor. I would like to talk with you about the incident. Are you available to meet with me on Teams on Monday, September 13, any time after 1:00 PM?

Best,
Chris

From: Schmidt, Maxie D <mschmidt34@gatech.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:33 PM
To: Griffin, Chris <chris.griffin@gatech.edu>
Subject: Fw: My frustrations after today's office hours

Dear Title IX Officer,

My advisor suggested I contact you. My fellow math grad student, and GSI, James Wenk's assignment about a combinatorics question about arranging pairs of blue balls in a line is heinous, offensive, inappropriate and borderline sexual harassment towards not only myself (as course grader) but also to the women in his class. If the forwarded chain of emails is not clear, please contact me for clarification.

Forthcoming as always,

Maxie Dion Schmidt
Ph.D. Candidate, School of Mathematics

From: Schmidt, Maxie D <mschmidt34@gatech.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 5:44 PM
To: Huang, Han <han.huang@math.gatech.edu>; Lacey, Michael <lacey@math.gatech.edu>
Subject: Re: My frustrations after today's office hours

Michael,

I do not have a copy of the section homework as I only have access to the A and C assignments with Dr. Han. What I saw was a screenshare of the poorly worded pdf for the instructor they reported as Wenk. It's not a joke. I had to reason through multinomial coefficient sums about pairs of blue balls in a line. I did forward the original message to Klara. Should I wait for her input? My intention is not to take immaturity out of context (knowing my friend Jack's best math friend). It needs to not happen again!

Maxie

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From: Lacey, Michael <lacey@math.gatech.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 5:36:42 PM
To: Schmidt, Maxie D <mschmidt34@gatech.edu>; Huang, Han <han.huang@math.gatech.edu>
Subject: Re: My frustrations after today's office hours

Maxie : These remarks are a violation of Title IX.

A remedy could be a message from someone with authority, a relevant professor, or as high as someone from the Title IX office.

The wording of the problem comes from James Wenk? This part wasn't clear to me.

Michael Lacey
School of Mathematics, Skiles 241
Georgia Tech

he/his/him

From: Schmidt, Maxie D <mschmidt34@gatech.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, September 8, 2021 4:55 PM
To: Huang, Han
Cc: Lacey, Michael
Subject: My frustrations after today's office hours

Han,

I am (as usual) happy to help students from all the Math 3012 sections try to reason out their weekly homework despite being the grader for only A and C. Today someone from James Wenk's section brought in a counting question about inserting red balls in between five pairs of blue balls in a line. Not even kidding, and it is the most unsubtle wording possible. This immature jock needs to grow up, remove his pair, and act like a professional worthy of someday receiving his Ph.D. I will have to imagine that all the women in his class are going to be as annoyed and offended at the premise as I was on impact -- not smirking, or politely neglecting to audibly laugh at this, like I detected some of the male students doing over BlueJeans this afternoon. How do we keep this from happening again?

Maxie