

**Zimbra****burtons@uwplatt.edu**

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**Fwd: Lorne**

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**From :** Sabina Burton <burtons@uwplatt.edu>

Thu, Oct 11, 2012 11:01 PM

**Subject :** Fwd: Lorne**To :** Elizabeth A Throop <throope@uwplatt.edu>

Liz,

The student emailed me tonight. She is still struggling to understand the experiment and feels violated. I think if faculty and staff would have been informed of the experiment I could have calmed down the student right away. I must say I was worried myself.

Below the email exchange I had with Tom.

Well, at least you can't say we're boring ...

Thank you,

Sabina

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "Sabina Burton" <burtons@uwplatt.edu>

To: "Thomas E Caywood" <caywood@uwplatt.edu>

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 9:31:09 PM

Subject: Re: Lorne

Tom,

I understand what a breach experiment is. We are not a psychology department nor do I believe the experiment was conducted well. If the committee for Human Subject approved the experiment and the guidelines for the experiment were followed then there is no concern. Was I part of the experiment and included in the human subject form?

Alexandra Zupec is still upset about the incident. I can understand why. Nobody likes to be a guinea pig and sexual harassment is a very sensitive matter (perhaps not the best choice for a breach experiment when it comes to teacher-student relations).

Sabina

----- Original Message -----

From: "Thomas E Caywood" <caywood@uwplatt.edu>

To: "Sabina Burton" <burtons@uwplatt.edu>

Sent: Thursday, October 11, 2012 8:19:52 PM

Subject: Re: Lorne

Sabina:

I would like the name of the student who came to you with the note.

So I can interview her to find out exactly what happened.

Here is a brief definition of a breach experiment. In the field of social psychology, a breaching experiment is

an experiment that seeks to examine people's reactions to violations of commonly accepted social rules or norms.

This sounds exactly what he did - pass a note to a student which is a violation of a commonly accepted norm. Particularly

inappropriate behavior since we all received the warning from the Dean about student contact.

Tom

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