

October 11, 2003

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President Lee Bollinger, Columbia University
535 West 116th Street
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Mail Code 4309
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Dear President Bollinger:

I attended Columbia University from September, 1985 to October, 1988. This is a request to amend intentionally falsified records in my student file at Columbia College. Please see the enclosed transcript of my February 17, 1994 conversation with the Dean of Students Office and Moira Brown's enclosed March 24, 1994 false record of that conversation. I believe these false notes were made by her at her boss Roger Lehecka's behest, who was then Dean of Students.

As can be seen from the transcript, she actually took down my phone number. Phone messages left for deans messages seem to end up in the student file (of course they can be later surreptitiously removed by Columbia).

Moira Brown's sentence in her March 24, 1994 note -- "After I got off the phone with him I went into your office [Lehecka's] and told you what I said" -- is correct and not being challenged. I also believe that at this time Brown gave Lehecka the written message with my telephone number and the correct details of the conversation. I would like the mentioned documents to be kept in the file and I would like an amendment to be placed stating and accepting the below truths.

All claims in Moira Brown's March 24, 1994 note which do not match the attached transcript are falsifications made by Brown and these were made at the behest of Lehecka. At some point after Brown gave Lehecka my phone message, Lehecka decided there would be no such message and destroyed the written phone message given to him by Brown. After receiving my March 22, 1994 letter inquiring why Lehecka had not replied to the message I left for him, Lehecka had Brown put in a false note that I was lying about even leaving a message and to embellish this note with other stuff about "baiting" Brown -- this deceit he then had placed in the student record.

The amendment should specifically note that four blatant falsifications made by Brown are:

"Since I felt as if he was baiting me for more answers I said to him that if he did not understand the contents of the letter he should speak to Dean Lehecka."

"Ashish seemed satisfied with my response and did not ask me to tell you to call him. Perhaps an error on my part since I assumed he now understood and if he still had questions he would call you himself."

“I did not tell you to call him because he did not ask to speak with you nor did he ask me to leave message.”

“I assumed he would call you himself if he felt that was necessary.”

I have known Lehecka to have the Office function in this way. The Office’s here making notes falsely “documenting” that I am a liar is consistent with other attempts to destroy my credibility -- Lehecka had the Office do this because of complaints against him I had made to his superiors.

I am enclosing a copy of an accompanying letter I am sending to the FERPA Compliance Office at the Department of Education in Washington, D.C., which addresses other written lies by Lehecka where, he informed me that no hearings are available to students whose requests to amend documents are denied. Lehecka’s deceitful statements notwithstanding, I have the right to a hearing if Columbia refuses to “amend the record *as requested*” (34 CFR § 99.20(c), emphasis mine); further at the hearing I can be “represented by one or more individuals” (§ 99.22(c)).

Sincerely,

(Ashish Sirohi)

CC (with enclosures): Mr. Rooker, FERPA Compliance Office

Enclosures: Transcript of February 17, 1994 conversation with Moira Brown
Moira Brown’s note dated March 24, 1994