



## Sexual Harassment at UCLA School of Dentistry

12 messages

[REDACTED]@gmail.com> Wed, Jul 25, 2018 at 3:06 PM  
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To all of the Section/Division Chairs and Program Directors at UCLA School of Dentistry,

I feel helpless and am extremely concerned for my graduation. For the past three months, I have been a victim of sexual harassment by our Senior Associate Dean, **Dr. Sotirios Tetradis**, who invited students to come to him for advice if we ever encountered any problem in the school. I was having disagreements with my research mentor, and thought that Dr. Tetradis could help. Instead, he distorted the issues to attack my mentor, and sexually harassed me. When I filed the Title IX complaint, his powerful colleagues discouraged me from filing.

At our initial meeting, he told me to close the self-locking front door that connects his main office suite to the hallway; I was not sure why this was necessary, but I did not want to be impolite and followed his instructions. After we entered his private office in the back corner, he shut the second door between his private office and that main office. His office is a quiet and secluded room, especially when both doors are closed and locked. I did not think that we were going to be alone in such a secluded setting and immediately felt uncomfortable. He told me to sit on his couch, and we began our conversation. He asked me if I had any email trails illustrating the disagreements and misunderstandings that I had with my mentor. At first, I hesitated to show him these very personal emails, but he kept insisting and pressuring me. I reluctantly showed him the emails on my phone; he then grabbed my hand, claiming that he could not see very well. I felt embarrassed and helpless. He then insisted me to forward the emails to him so that he can think of ways to manage the situation against my research mentor. As I hesitated and pulled myself away, he kept on moving closer and pressured me to forward the emails. His intimidating physical contact and forceful request pressured me to comply, and I ended up forwarding the email to him.

I was shocked to find out later on that he wanted to use me and the emails to falsify a complaint against my mentor, Dr. Ting. During the follow-up meeting, he ordered me to report Dr. Ting to the Title IX office, even though no circumstance warranted such an action. He kept on pressuring me to support his false allegation, by claiming that he and Dean Krebsbach "are much bigger and powerful than Dr. Ting". He asserted that even the university and the Title IX office are on their side, especially since Dr. Tetradis and the Title IX coordinator, Mr. Mohammed Cato, are close friends. He assures me that Mr. Cato will do whatever favors Dr. Tetradis asks with one phone call. I refused to support this and argued against his immoral behavior. He then claimed that he would still file against Dr. Ting, whether I agree with him or not. Furthermore, he made another unwanted sexual advance towards me during this meeting, of which I do not wish to discuss the graphic details in this letter. I left his office that day feeling angry, disgusted, threatened, and confused. I had never thought that he would do such things; and hate myself for being so naive to believe that I could trust him. As an international student with no family members to turn to, I felt vulnerable and helpless. I had no courage to report Dr. Tetradis, knowing that Mr. Cato and Dr. Tetradis are friends. I decided to cut off communications with Dr. Tetradis and resigned from the lab that he had arranged for me. When he found out about this, he became furious. He contacted me multiple times and insisted that I meet with him at his office again, even after I told him that I do not wish to see him. When I did not show up after he ordered me to meet at his office, he went ballistic and traced me down in the orthodontic clinic while I was treating patients. He even emailed Dr. Moon and Dr. Ting and let them know that my action could negatively impact my graduation.

I was deeply scarred by these events, but I did not have courage to do anything because I was afraid of what Dr. Tetradis and Dean Paul would do to me. To my surprise, the Title IX office reached out to me. It turned out that Dr. Tetradis, had filed a

complaint against Dr. Ting on my behalf, and Title IX office was eager to investigate. Therefore, I had no choice but to file a formal complaint against Dr. Tetradis and clarified that it was Dr. Tetradis who is the perpetrator. As soon as this happened, the Title IX assistant and director tried very hard to discourage me from moving forward with my true sexual harassment claim. I was SHOCKED, and raised my concerns regarding the conflict of interest between Mr. Cato and Dr. Tetradis. I demanded a non-biased third person to oversee the case, but they disregard my concerns. It gets worse; as it turned out, Mr. Cato had already spoken with the Dean and Dr. Tetradis on this matter. When I spoke to the Title IX person that they had recommended me to talk to, she even claimed a conflicting argument that Mr. Cato was talking to Dr. Tetradis in order to protect me from him, but this is clearly a biased process. I do not see this as a fair investigation process, especially after I found out that Mr. Cato insisted he would remain involved with my case and had talked to the Dean and Dr. Tetradis even before the investigation started. In addition, what type of protection would they be able to provide me when meanwhile Mr. Cato and his Title IX team have already claimed that they cannot give me any protection when I first had a meeting with them? Instead of providing protection to victims of sexual assault, Title IX's main interest is apparently to shut down the case and brush it off. This misconduct is a gross injustice to UCLA's reputation, and it truly defeats the very purpose of the Title IX office. Dr. Tetradis has misled his intentions, threatened my graduation, pressured me to falsely accuse Dr. Ting, falsified information that I had given him to frame Dr. Ting with fabricated evidence, sexually assaulted me in his private locked-door office, and stalked and retaliated against me when I did not comply with his request. I am reaching out to you because I am scared and feel that I will not see justice, because powerful corruption runs too deeply in this school. I plead for your help. At least police this Title IX process as it unfolds. Help me to stop this immoral behavior.

Sincerely,

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