

January 6, 2018

Information About Former Faculty Member

I am writing to inform you of a report released yesterday by The Nichols School that names a former Exeter faculty member who was at the school while you were a student. Art Budington has admitted to having an inappropriate relationship in the 1990s with at least one student at The Nichols School, where he worked for 35 years. Mr. Budington came to Exeter in September of 2006 with his spouse, who had been hired as a full-time teacher in math. Subsequent to his spouse's employment by the Academy, Mr. Budington was hired to teach part-time in science and was in that role through the fall of 2008. He also taught in the summer school program in 2007. Along with his spouse, he lived in faculty housing and then in Moulton House dorm. He was also an affiliate in Amen Hall in the 2007-2008 school year. After he stopped teaching at Exeter in the fall term of 2008, Mr. Budington served as adviser to the mechanical engineering student organization from January to June 2009, when he and his spouse left the school.

Our files indicate that during Mr. Budington's employment, one student came forward with allegations of boundary issues and sexual harassment. Those allegations were investigated and addressed at that time. In response to multiple communications sent to alumni urging them to come forward with any information regarding sexual misconduct at the Academy, we have received no additional reported incidents involving Mr. Budington.

I encourage anyone who experienced or witnessed inappropriate behavior by Mr. Budington at any time to please let me know.

Exeter has a thorough hiring process, including background checks. We have set clear guidelines for the conduct of all faculty and staff members to ensure that prompt action is taken in the event of inappropriate conduct. In addition, our training programs provide all employees with the guidance and tools to help ensure healthy and safe student-adult relationships. If you have any questions or concerns about our commitment to student safety, we invite you to visit our [website](#) for information about our commitment to student safety and well-being and to contact our director of student well-being, Christina Palmer, at cdpalmer@exeter.edu.

Sincerely,

Lisa MacFarlane
Principal Instructor and Instructor in English