
Interview Request Julie Roys

7 messages

Scott Vaudrey [REDACTED]

Tue, Jan 28, 2020 at 7:00 PM

To: Julie Roys [REDACTED]

Hello Julie,

Thank you for your email—and for seeking a fuller picture. While Ann and I may have slightly different recollections about some details of our meetings, she and I remain completely aligned over the central content of her post: her experience of Dr. Bilezikian. What happened to her was wrong. I have always liked Ann. In my experience, she has been and continues to be sincere and courageous.

I'd like to address the parts of her post that relate directly to me and then respond to some questions about my role at Willow:

- I am so sad to discover from Ann's post how she experienced her meetings with us. I clearly fell short of creating a safe-enough environment for Ann to fully express how she was feeling, and I am deeply sorry.
- I'm heartbroken to discover that Ann thinks the ERT didn't take her seriously or failed to take her situation to higher leadership. When we first heard her story, we immediately reported the full details to Bill and to the elders at the time. The decision of these leaders was to restrict Dr. Bilezikian from serving, teaching, or mentoring. Although this was my last involvement with Dr. Bilezikian, I continued to share Ann's story with other elders and in 2018, I met with the IAG team and made sure they had all the details of Ann's story for their report.
- At no point was any document hidden, lost, or removed from scrutiny. Over the years, in the vast majority of the situations that we dealt with, after a period of inactivity (never immediately), hard copies of documents were scanned, digitalized, and stored electronically. Only after files were successfully stored digitally were any originals ever shredded.

When we initially met with Ann and her husband, and then separately with Dr. Bilezikian, both parties brought in a significant volume of emails and other correspondence from each other. In fact, in at least two instances, both parties brought duplicates of the same documents, so we ended up with multiple copies of the same email. I kept them all. Nothing was lost. The specific postcards Ann mentions in her post have always been available to the elders and executive staff, either physically or digitally. Because I am no longer on staff at Willow, I no longer have access to them, though I am told they are still stored in digital format and remain accessible.

For Ann to experience any acts of retribution would be reprehensible. I cannot speak to her being silenced or watched by security, as no one on the ERT (including myself) was involved—nor would we ever condone such actions since Ann has done nothing wrong.

Finally, to clear up some misunderstanding: I have never been part of Willow's Executive Team or Elder Board. Until resigning in September 2018 to move nearer our kids in California, I spent 17 years on staff at Willow leading a number of departments—the last ten years overseeing pastoral care and Willow's elder response team.

Since I first read the 2018 *Chicago Tribune* article, I believed the stories of the women who came forward. Willow's leadership and Elders can attest that I was vocal about this conviction and that I tried to use my influence to advocate for the women. **Ann was no exception.** I affirm today what I told Ann from the first day she shared her story: **I believe her.** I truly wish the best for her.

I hope this helps.

Best,

Scott