Statement Regarding Walter Lasecki's Conduct

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We condemn Lasecki's behavior.

Lasecki's actions, which were brought to our knowledge only in 2020, were deplorable. The resulting harms to the victims of his abuse and sexual harassment are immense. **As co-authors who interacted with Lasecki in the past, we recognize and relate to both the immediate- and long-term effects his abuse has had on many students, mentees, junior colleagues, and especially female colleagues**, who have interacted with him over the many years, primarily through research events and collaborations.

We no longer work or interact with Walter Lasecki.

We did not know about Lasecki's actions during our collaboration. After hearing about Lasecki's actions, we stopped all collaborations and interactions with Lasecki.

Walter Lasecki wasn't a leading contributor to this work.

The work in this paper was conducted in Spring/Summer 2018 and led by a person-of-color, immigrant, (third year) graduate student at UW during his three month long internship at Microsoft Research, Redmond. The work was done under the mentorship of four respected AI researchers (including two female primary contacts) who are committed to principles of diversity, equity, inclusion, and creating a safe, productive work environment.

Lasecki is the fifth author of this paper. He is neither the primary author nor a principal investigator, and joined this project towards the last month of the internship. **Lasecki neither developed the key ideas in this work nor helped drive the solutions.** He was included as an author for joining the weekly meetings towards the last month of the internship and for contributing a coding experiment. None of the authors in 2018 were aware of Lasecki's conduct during this process. While we regret Lasecki being a co-author on this paper, authors do not have the option to remove a co-author post-publication.