Neri forwarded your email to me. I would please ask that you copy me on all Epstein-related communications going forward as I and members of my legal and communication teams are working to help her, and Neri already has enough on her plate breastfeeding a three-month-old baby — a very beautiful one I might add — without a baby nurse until early September.

Our advice on handling the recent press request:

I would suggest that on background that you let the press know that Epstein did not receive a Disobedience Award, but he, like other donors to the Lab (Donor A, Donor B, Donor C, etc., -- [Donor names redacted] although I would of course not mention their names) received a gift from the MediaLab of a unique design object. I don’t think it is necessary for you to say it was at your request, which as I understand in this case it was, but it is very important that you don’t mention Neri’s name or otherwise get her involved or she will have to issue her own statement to protect her reputation explaining why it was sent and at whose request, who else received similar gifts, how she met Epstein, who else at MIT received funding from Epstein, why she declined to attend meetings and dinners with Epstein which other faculty attended. This will of course blow this up even more which we would certainly not like to see happen.

Although I don’t think it is necessary to mention this, according to Neri, the gift Epstein received differed from the Disobedience Award as it had a
different base, the orb had a different pattern, and it did not come with a certificate among other differences.

The fact that Neri as the designer of the MediaLab was asked to produce nearly all, if not all, physical gifts for donors — using her and her student’s time and resources — at either your, Rafael’s office, Nina or Jess’ request is not a good reason for Neri to be ‘outed’ as the supplier to Epstein. Because of Neri’s profile, her upcoming MoMA show, and the large amount of recent media about her, she would be an appealing target for the press as I am sure you understand.

To be clear, Neri’s interests are not adverse to you, the MediaLab or MIT, but I don’t want to see her forced into a position where to protect her name she is required to be transparent about everything that took place at MIT with Epstein. Once her name appears in the press, she will face a barrage of questions, and anything other than perfect transparency to the media will make her look like she is hiding something. This has regretfully become a witch hunt as I am sure you already understand. Neri has nothing to hide about the Epstein situation, but would rather stay quiet unless she is forced to do otherwise.

We will be on a flight beginning at 10:30am Eastern until 7pm but I am reachable before if you would like to discuss this further or possibly by email during the flight.

Thank you

Bill

William Ackman
From: Neri Oxman <nerioxman@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2019 8:37 AM
To: William Ackman
Subject: [ext] Fwd: Jeffrey Epstein

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Joichi Ito <joi@media.mit.edu>
Date: Tue, Aug 20, 2019 at 12:56 AM
Subject: Re: Jeffrey Epstein
To: Neri Oxman <neri@media.mit.edu>

Let me know what you think want to do.

> On Aug 19, 2019, at 18:04, Joichi Ito <joi@media.mit.edu> wrote:
>
From: Kimberly Allen <allenkc@mit.edu>
Subject: FW: Jeffrey Epstein
Date: August 19, 2019 at 17:46:27 EDT
To: "joi@media.mit.edu" <joi@media.mit.edu>

From: "Fernandes, Deirdre" <deirdre.fernandes@globe.com>
Date: Monday, August 19, 2019 at 3:08 PM
To: Kimberly Allen <allenkc@mit.edu>
Subject: Jeffrey Epstein

Hi Kimberly -

Did MIT make a "Disobedience Award" globe (basically the trophy for the award) for Jeffrey Epstein in the first year that the award was given?

Deirdre

Deirdre Fernandes
Reporter
Boston Globe
deirdre.fernandes@globe.com
@fernandesglobe
617-929-7406 (office)
617-615-2378 (cell)

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