

Dear President Adam Falk and the Board of Trustees,

We are deeply disturbed by the recent conviction of Trustee Joey Shaista Horn and her husband by the Oslo District Court for violating the Immigration Act (of Norway). The couple had illegally hired two au pairs and subjected them to [illegal and unjust working conditions from 2011 to 2014](#), as reported by several Norwegian media outlets.

Trustee Joey Shaista Horn and her husband were [sentenced to imprisonment](#) for five months and [ordered to pay 372,000 Norwegian kroner](#) (approximately 44,000 USD) on February 3rd, 2017.

According to attorney Gunhild Vehusheia, counsel for the au pairs, the two had average weekly working hours of 63.5 hours, far over the 30 hour legal limit, [as published by Dagens Naeringsliv \(DN\)](#), the third largest newspaper in Norway.

A police investigation revealed the following dialogue from a chat program used by Horn, as quoted in DN: [\[automatically translated by Google Chrome\]](#)

*“It was the stupid second Filipino maid who hosted the food or the bathroom. I have banished her from the house until she is better. [sic] Now she must wear a face mask and disposable gloves to enter. I also demanded that ... (another au pair, ed. note) must wear disposable gloves so she does not infect the children, ” it said in one of the messages.*

*...In the same dialogue writing Horns spouse that she has threatened the au pair that she can be sent back to ‘straw mats in Manila.’”*

[Original Norwegian text below]

«Det var den dumme andre filippinske hushjelpen som hostet på maten eller på badet. Jeg har bannlyst henne fra huset inntil hun er bedre. Nå må hun bruke munnbind og engangshansker for å komme inn. Jeg har også krevd at... (en annen au pair, red. anmerkning) må bruke engangshansker så hun ikke smitter barna», sto det i en av meldingene.

*...I den samme dialogen skriver Horns ektefelle at hun har truet au pairen med at hun kan bli sendt tilbake til «stråmattene i Manila».*

Joey Shaista Horn and Ragnar Horn were first indicted in 2014 for violation of the Immigration Act, as well as perjury against public authority. This led Ragnar Horn to [withdraw his candidacy for a seat on the board of Clarkson-Platou](#). Horn Hall, named after the Horn family, was opened in 2016 and Joey Shaista Horn still sits on the Williams College Board of Trustees. We are

deeply confused and shocked by this new information and we reiterate our call for transparency on the part of Williams College and the Board of Trustees.

We have questions and demand answers:

- When was Williams College made aware of the investigation, the trial, and the conviction?
- Why did Williams College fail to notify the community about this pending investigation?
- If the College was aware of this investigation, why did the College feel it was appropriate to open Horn Hall with its current name?
- Will Trustee Joey Shaista Horn continue to serve on the Board of Trustees?

We demand that the College develop a clear plan for ensuring transparency and accountability from Trustees in the future.

Although we are outraged, we are optimistic that Williams College will provide satisfactory answers. Williams is our home and our future. We expect better and we know that the College is capable of doing better.

Sincerely,  
The Coalition for Transparency and Accountability

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*We have attached a PDF file in this email from one news source that may require a subscription to view. All news sources in Norwegian can be viewed or translated online.*

[Norwegian-language sources]

Admits to having abused au pair scheme (Dagens Næringsliv)

<http://www.dn.no/nyheter/2017/01/03/1207/Arbeidsliv/innrommer-a-ha-misbrukt-au-pair-ordningen>

The au pair had to use face masks (Dagens Næringsliv)

<http://www.dn.no/nyheter/2017/01/04/1809/Jus/au-pairen-matte-bruke-munnbind>

Former broker top Ragnar Horn sentenced in au pair case (E24)

<http://e24.no/lov-og-rett/domstol/tidligere-meglertopp-ragnar-horn-doemt-i-au-pair-saken/23915042>

Billionaire convicted in au pair case (NRK) <https://www.nrk.no/ostlandssendingen/domt-i-au-pair-saken-1.13357931>

Billionaire sentenced to prison for human trafficking (NRK)

<https://www.nrk.no/ostlandssendingen/milliardaer-domt-til-fengsel-for-menneskesmugling-1.13358136>

[English-language sources - also attached as PDF]

Au pair scandal yields jail terms (NewsinEnglish.no)

<http://www.newsinenglish.no/2017/02/03/au-pair-scandal-yields-jail-terms/>

Platou millionaire faces charges over au pair contracts (NewsinEnglish.no)

<http://www.newsinenglish.no/2014/12/15/platou-millionaire-faces-charges-over-au-pair-contracts/>