Dear Ann,

If I’ve understood you correctly, then the following is true:

(a) My request of Sept. 28 was forwarded to Fethke/Robillard/Gardial on Sept. 29th via Peter Mathis

(b) Peter Mathis has no record of this because he deletes his email. We only know via a thread from Gardial that Sept. 29th was the date of his inquiry.

(c) Open Records depends entirely on individuals being investigated to hand over their own email.

(d) Open Records cannot access deleted email after 15 days. (I have still not heard from tech support why this is the case).

(e) This request — and those most critical to the Presidential Search — took longer than 15 days from the time of the request to the time you receive the documents (e.g. Robillard did not answer until Nov. 2nd.)

Would you agree, Ann, a university official could receive an Open Records request, delete sensitive email, wait two weeks, and then claim no responsive correspondence? Your office would have no independent means to verify whether or not this was the case. Correct?

**Dr. Stephen Voyce**

Assistant Professor

English Department

Digital Studio for the Public Arts & Humanities

University of Iowa

EPB 362 | stephenvoyce.org

**From:** UI Public Records <[public-records@uiowa.edu](mailto:public-records@uiowa.edu)>

**Date:** Wednesday, November 11, 2015 at 11:02 AM

**To:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences <[stephen-Voyce@uiowa.edu](mailto:stephen-Voyce@uiowa.edu)>

**Subject:** Your Follow-Up Questions

Stephen,

I checked with Peter Matthes and he does not retain many emails so he has no record of when he first sent the request to Fethke. My office received Fethke’s response on October 21.    Peter also does not have a record of  when he forwarded the request to Robillard but he sent a reminder email to Robillard on November 1 and Robillard responded on November 2 that included only one document (the Word document titled “Fethke commentaries),  which was included in the zip file we sent you.

I do have documentation (attached) that Peter forwarded your request to Gardial on September 29. I can only assume that he forwarded the same request to Fethke and Robillard on September 29 as well.

By November 2, I received all responsive documents, did an initial review and redaction,  and sent them all to Legal for review. I received Legal’s counsel on November 9th and that was when I sent you the zipped file.

The Iowa Public Records statute does not set forth any requirements for the collection of records responsive to requests.  The Iowa Public Information Board has confirmed that the open records statute does not require any specific process for retrieval of public records.  Our process is consistent with State Law, has been our process for decades and is what the University of Iowa follows.

Again, I’d be happy to discuss this further with you in person or via phone at your convenience.

-Ann Goff

**From:** Voyce, Stephen C  **Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2015 2:15 PM **To:** UI Public Records **Subject:** Re: Your Public Records Request

Can you please indicate at what date you received emails responsive to this request? When did Peter make the request to Robillard and Fethke?

My frustration has nothing to do with you or your office, Ann, but rather with a process in which you are made to obtain communications from said individuals rather than directly from IT servers, and a 2 week period after which email is inaccessible. This greatly detracts from the efficacy of open records request procedures.

**Dr. Stephen Voyce**

Assistant Professor

English Department

Digital Studio for the Public Arts & Humanities

University of Iowa

EPB 362 | Iowa City IA | 52242

**From:** UI Public Records <[public-records@uiowa.edu](mailto:public-records@uiowa.edu)> **Date:** Tuesday, November 10, 2015 12:10 PM **To:** "Voyce, Stephen C" <[stephen-voyce@uiowa.edu](mailto:stephen-voyce@uiowa.edu)> **Subject:** Re: Your Public Records Request

Stephen,

Since this request involved an Interim President and a former Interim President, as Chief of Staff, Peter Matthes was the point person for farming out the request to Jean Robillard and Gary Fethke.  Gary Fethke forwarded all of his emails to Peter Matthes instead of forwarding them directly to [public-records@uiowa.edu](mailto:public-records@uiowa.edu). Those emails were then forwarded to me.

Robillard had no responsive documents to this request.  Stead  is not a university employee and the University of Iowa doesn’t own his records. There were no responsive emails to this request during Stead’s time as a search committee member.

I would again like to point out that my office works hard in providing responses right away but we are dependent on reviewers to provide those responses. Once we receive the records, those are reviewed individually by staff and then by our general counsel’s office to make sure that no protected documents (like FERPA and HIPPA-protected records) are released.

I’d be happy to answer your questions by phone if you need further discussion.

-Ann

**From:** Voyce, Stephen C  **Sent:** Monday, November 9, 2015 9:44 PM **To:** UI Public Records **Subject:** Re: Your Public Records Request

Dear Ann,

I’ve just had an opportunity to review the materials responsive to my request. Unless the zip file was corrupted somehow, there must be some mistake. It contains only a single document from Gary Fethke, 16 emails from Peter Matthes (who is not part of this request), and 16 emails from Sara Gardial.

There is no correspondence from Robillard, Stead, et al.?  If this is the full suite of emails, can you please explain why the request, made on September 28th, took the time it did?

Regards,

**Dr. Stephen Voyce**

Assistant Professor

English Department

Digital Studio for the Public Arts & Humanities

University of Iowa

EPB 362 | stephenvoyce.org

**From:** UI Public Records <[public-records@uiowa.edu](mailto:public-records@uiowa.edu)> **Date:** Monday, November 9, 2015 at 5:10 PM **To:** College of Liberal Arts and Sciences <[stephen-Voyce@uiowa.edu](mailto:stephen-Voyce@uiowa.edu)> **Subject:** Your Public Records Request

Stephen,

The emails responsive to your request (copied below) are available [here](https://iowa-my.sharepoint.com/personal/ajhnson_uiowa_edu/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?guestaccesstoken=RBQLjciC2J6LHBWNXN2OvI4pKdWZMNEpw%2fZAc2%2bQ7nM%3d&docid=04d448864361e425eacfd2c5bea266edb).

Please let me know if you have any questions.

-Ann Goff

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UI Transparency Officer

Office of the Vice President for Operational Efficiency       and Regulatory Analysis 230 Jessup Hall Iowa City, IA 52242 | Tel: 319-335-0270

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**NOTICE TO RECIPIENT: THIS MESSAGE AND ANY RESPONSE TO IT MAY CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC RECORD, AND THEREFORE, MAY BE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH IOWA PUBLIC RECORDS LAW, IOWA CODE CHAPTER 22.**

**From:** UIowa Open-Records [<mailto:open-records@iowa.uiowa.edu>]  **Sent:** Monday, September 28, 2015 4:50 PM

A new public records request was submitted:

?         Request Number: 1012

?         Public Request Number: 1921

?         Submission Date: Monday, September 28, 2015

?         Requestor: Stephen Voyce

?         EmailAddress: [stephen-voyce@uiowa.edu](mailto:stephen-voyce@uiowa.edu)

Question:

I request the following email correspondence (date range: 9/1/14 – 9/28/15: Jerre Stead: to/from Robillard, to/from Fethke, to/from Gardial Jean Robillard: to/from Stead, to/from Fethke, to/from Gardial Sarah Fisher Gardial: to/from Stead, to/from, Robillard, to/from Fethke Gary Fethke: to/from Stead, to/from Robillard, to/from Gardial