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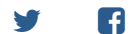
NEW YORK

# Columbia University grad busted for hacking professor accounts gets sweetheart deal

By SHAYNA JACOBS  
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(Center) Bill Liang Lin Wu who was busted in February for allegedly stealing passwords and confidential information from Columbia University hard drives at Manhattan Criminal Court on Tuesday. (Alec Tabak for New York Daily News)



A Columbia University graduate charged with stealing confidential information from campus hard drives got a sweetheart plea deal Tuesday.

Bill Liang Lin Wu, 23, had previously copped to computer trespass, a misdemeanor.

But he got to plead down to disorderly conduct after doing 10 days of community service and sending a letter of apology to the school.

He was sentenced to time served when he appeared in Manhattan Criminal Court on Tuesday.

Wu, who was arrested Feb. 1, was originally charged with several felony computer crimes and burglary.

His attorney Jeremy Saland said Wu, who graduated last year, had access to school facilities because he was auditing classes.

Saland previously said there was course material his client was trying to get his hands on for professional development when he allegedly used a keylogging device to record passwords and other information.

“We are grateful that after examining the evidence and giving my client an opportunity to be heard, the DA confirmed my client’s conduct did not amount to a malicious criminal scheme to defraud as we asserted from day one,” Saland said of the plea deal, which was struck in April.

Wu was left without a criminal conviction in the deal.

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