Campus Update 3-12-21

Subject: Middlesex Bias Response Newsletter

Dear Residents of Middlesex,

On Monday, March 1, 2021, around 8pm, a staff member noticed a bulletin board on the 3rd floor of Middlesex was vandalized with the phrase "All Lives Matter." The bulletin board was about Black Owned Sustainable Fashion Brands. This type of behavior is directly against the University of Connecticut's values of striving to create a safe and inclusive community for all students.

A bias-related incident is an incident that negatively targets, intimidates, or threatens an individual or group due to race, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, physical, mental, and intellectual disabilities, as well as past/present history of mental disorders. This includes, but is not limited to, graffiti or images that harass or intimidate individuals or groups due to the above characteristics.

We will be having open office hours on **Monday, 3/15/2021 at 11am** via <u>WebEx</u> to discuss the impact this incident had on the community. If anyone has any further information about this incident, you are encouraged to attend. While this is not mandatory, we do expect that you all have an active part in building an inclusive community and hope that you can come to support members of your community who may have been negatively affected by this incident.

As you move forward in immersing yourself into the community, please keep in mind that small actions have a major impact. We can be proactive and not reactive to situations like this by making the following changes in our daily behaviors: Hold your peers accountable for their decisions; if you see something, say something. You can tell your RA or your Hall Director. Lastly, remind your guests that you are responsible for their behavior and that you will not tolerate these types of acts within your community.

If you would like to further explore information regarding this matter, please continue reviewing the information in this newsletter.

If you encounter any other bias related incidents within the community please do not hesitate to report it through the bias reporting <u>form</u>.

Best,

The North Campus Staff