

Buckley Bias Response – 9/14/22

Subject: Buckley Bias Response

Dear Residents of Buckley Hall,

On Wednesday, August 31, 2022, there was an incident that occurred which is considered to be bias related in nature. Students personal pride posters were vandalized in the community. 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 expect that you will all have an active part in building an inclusive community by helping us disrupt the narrative that events such as these create about our community. We can disprove these notions of intolerance by showing up in allyship to events that uplift and support each other. Although this incident has occurred in our area, I know they do not represent who we are as a community.

The RAs and I will be creating a poster campaign to highlight opportunities for growth and education for the residents of Buckley Hall. This poster that will explain the history of pride, the importance of living in an inclusive environment, and resources you can find on campus to educate yourself and others as well. When you see these, I encourage you to have conversations with your RAs and fellow community members about how to be an ally while creating a safe and positive community.

As you move forward in immersing yourself in the community, please keep in mind that small actions, including vandalism in our community, 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 decision; If you see something, whether it is bias or vandalism, say something to your RA, or your Hall Director. Remind your guests that you are responsible for their behavior and that you will not tolerate acts within your community.

If anyone has any additional information about this specific incident, please reach out to myself at monica.mordowanec@uconn.edu or Jen Napiorski at jennifer.napiorski@uconn.edu

If you encounter any other bias related incidents within the community, please do not hesitate to report it through the bias reporting form. <https://dos.uconn.edu/bias-reporting-2/>

Respectfully,

Monica Mordowanec

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Hall Director