

Community Meeting Follow Up and Recap – 9/29/22

Subject: Community Meeting Follow Up and Recap

Hello Terry 3rd Floor,

Thank you for attending the Community Meeting on Tuesday and sharing your perspectives on the incident that took place. I was glad to hear that you all are continuing to support those affected by this incident and are committed to creating an inclusive community.

For those that were not able to attend, a brief overview of the meeting is provided below.

To begin the meeting, we discussed the definition of a bias incident and the incident that took place on the floor. A bias incident is any 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. In this instance, individual(s) targeted the LGBTQIA+ community by writing inappropriate and offensive comments on a whiteboard.

I explained that when a bias incident is reported, a Bias Facilitator from Residential Life meets with all of the identified involved parties including those impacted, those who committed the bias incident, if known, and any witnesses who may have been present. The Bias Facilitator then reaches out to the Hall Directors to discuss any follow up that may be necessary and develop a Bias Response Plan. I shared that due to confidentiality, I could not share all of the specifics of the incident, but would share permitted, relevant information.

I then opened the floor for anyone to share and process their thoughts and feelings regarding the incident and how it may have impacted the sense of community on the floor. It was stated that many of you have spoken amongst yourselves about this incident and processed it as a group. It was also shared that some of you have reached out to those whose whiteboard was vandalized to share support and let them know that this kind of behavior is not acceptable and will not be tolerated on your floor. A few of you shared that your primary concern was making sure that no one felt unsafe and/or unwelcome anywhere on campus, but especially their own residence hall.

I asked if anyone had any questions about the incident or bias response in general, or any information they would like to share. At the time of the meeting, no one had anything else

to add. However, if you do have something you'd like to ask about or information to provide, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Lastly, I discussed the importance of creating an inclusive and respectful environment and how this is outlined in our Student Code. I also spoke about resources available on campus for reporting bias incidents or seeking support. These resources are listed and linked below. There are also some additional resources that were not discussed in the meeting but may be beneficial.

RA on Duty: (860) 933-4781

Available from 7:00pm to 7:00am Monday - Friday, and 24 hours a day on Saturday and Sunday

Northwest Hall Director Office: (860) 486-0946

Available from 9:00am - 6:00pm Monday - Friday and located in Batterson Hall through an exterior entrance.

Dean of Students Office: (860) 486-3426

Located in Wilbur Cross - Room 203. Drop-in hours are each day from 1:00pm to 3:00pm or you can call to schedule an appointment.

SHaW Mental Health: (860) 486-4705

Located on the 4th floor of Arjona. Call before going in person to ensure that staff may best serve you.

Cultural Centers/Programs

Located in the Student Union

African American Cultural Center: (860) 486-3433

Asian American Cultural Center: (860) 486-0830

Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center (PRLACC): (860) 486-1135

Rainbow Center: (860) 486-5821

Women's Center: (860) 486-4738

Native American Cultural Programs: (860) 486-8453

Middle Eastern Cultural Programs: (860) 486-3510

UConn Police

Emergencies: 911

Non-Emergency: (860) 486-4800

Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of the resources available to you. You are welcome and invited to utilize any of these resources for support, education, and to keep our community safe.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you all again for your time, participation, and commitment to an inclusive community.

Best,

Victoria

Victoria N. Clark, M.Ed.

She/Her/Hers

Residence Hall Director - Northwest Quadrangle

Department of Residential Life

Phone: 860-486-0946