



November 8, 2021

Dear Staff and Faculty:

Below please find a letter that Kevin Hallock and Steve Bisese sent to all students on Saturday, Nov. 6, regarding the University's commitment to preventing sexual assault and misconduct within our campus community and fostering an environment in which students and all members of our community are comfortable reporting incidents of sexual misconduct. We fully support Kevin and Steve's statement in their letter that "no one should ever be sexually assaulted or harassed on our campus or anywhere."

The University has many resources and systems designed to prevent and respond to sexual assault and harassment within our campus community, and there are links to useful information in the letter below. We are grateful for the support and feedback of the campus community and will continue to pursue opportunities to work collaboratively to prevent sexual misconduct on our campus.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

David Hale

Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Jeffrey Legro

Executive Vice President and Provost

Dear Students:

Today we write to reaffirm our commitment to building a community of care, well-being, and belonging in the wake of our most recent timely warning about sexual misconduct.

Incidents of sexual assault are abhorrent and have no place in society. No one should ever be sexually assaulted or harassed on our campus or anywhere. Our university is working hard each day to provide an environment where students are comfortable reporting incidents of sexual misconduct, and we deeply appreciate the conviction and courage of students who come forward with reports. We investigate thoroughly and respond promptly to all reports of sexual misconduct and provide a wide variety of resources both on and off our campus to survivors.

On October 24, UR police notified our campus community via a timely warning of a report of a sexual assault that occurred on campus the day prior. On October 25, an arrest was made. The University confirmed the arrest to the Collegian and subsequently wrote to students to remind them of the many resources available both on and off campus to support survivors and others affected by sexual misconduct. Such resources can be found [here](#).

We understand that some in our campus community want to learn more about the recent case. We are, however, prevented by law from discussing specific reports of sexual misconduct. We are required by law to maintain the confidentiality of such information and, importantly, have a commitment to respect the privacy of community members who report sexual misconduct and to allow time and space for the healing process to begin. The University also does not want to take any action that would impact a pending criminal or Title IX investigation.

We have many systems and programs that are designed to prevent sexual assault and harassment. These begin at orientation and include programming on consent, sexual assault prevention, and bystander intervention. More information on sexual misconduct education can be found [here](#). We also strongly encourage members of our community to report sexual misconduct and have a process for responding to any report of sexual misconduct, which is described [here](#). We continue to try to improve and do more to stamp out the scourge of sexual misconduct, assault, and harassment and welcome feedback and ideas for improvement.

If you wish to get involved in our efforts to prevent incidents of sexual misconduct, please contact Kaylin Tingle, healthy relationship and violence prevention educator, and consider joining [URWell Peer Educators](#) to support the development and implementation of programs such as Spiders for Spiders bystander intervention training, Red Flag Campaign, and My Costume is Not My Consent.

Please know that we will continue to work diligently to prevent sexual misconduct on our campus, to strongly encourage reports of any assault or harassment, to support survivors of sexual misconduct, and to investigate and adjudicate reports in a manner that is fair and prioritizes the safety and well-being of our students.

Continue to take care of yourselves and look out for others.

Steve Bisese

Vice President for Student Development

Kevin Hallock

President