



Office of the Dean of Students

To: All Undergraduate, Graduate, and Part-Time Students

From: William H. Johnson, PhD, dean of students

Re: Dean of Students Updates

Happy New Year! We trust that you had an enjoyable and relaxing winter break. As you prepare for what we hope to be a productive and rewarding semester, we want to provide you with updates pertaining to the student experience. We ask that you make note of the policies and changes which are highlighted in the sections that follow.

Student Handbook

The 2019-20 Student Handbook is available online. It took effect September 1, 2019, and will remain in effect until further notice. The Handbook applies to all students of Fairfield University and information contained therein is intended to serve and be useful for all students. The Handbook is only available online at www.fairfield.edu/studenthandbook. *It is important for students to review the Student Handbook periodically as all policies and guidelines are subject to change.*

All students living in University housing are required to review the *Residential Guidelines* section of the Handbook. Below are a couple of items of note for those living in University housing:

- Tiki torches and other devices producing an open flame are not permitted. Please review the Office of Residence Life Housing Agreement in the Handbook for a list of prohibited items.
- Do not block or obstruct windows or hang your own curtains or window treatments as these create potential fire hazards.

Questions or comments are always welcome and can be directed to the Office of the Dean of Students at (203) 254-4211 or dosoffice@fairfield.edu. Additional information about policies and procedures can be found in the undergraduate and graduate catalogs.

Bystander Intervention/Medical Amnesty

If a student seeks assistance from a University employee or designee because of personal safety concerns or concerns for another student, those students generally will not be held accountable under the Student Conduct Code. The fear of, or concern about, the potential student conduct process should not deter students from seeking appropriate medical or personal assistance. To encourage individuals or groups to come forward with reports about physical violence and sexual misconduct, students will not be sanctioned for revealing a violation in good faith, such as underage drinking, in the process of reporting an incident.

Smoke-Free Campus

In the spring of 2017, Fairfield University was designated as tobacco-free. The use of tobacco and tobacco products was no longer permitted. This policy has been expanded to include a prohibition on smoking of any kind anywhere on our campus through the use of, for example, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, and electronic cigarettes and vaping devices. On-campus cessation programs are available to students. Those seeking to overcome addictions to the use of these devices are strongly encouraged to contact the Student Health Center or Counseling & Psychological Services.

Student Safety

We encourage students to report any suspicious behavior to the Department of Public Safety at 203-254-4090. It is good practice to keep your room, apartment, and house doors locked to protect you and your valuables.

When using private vehicles (such as cabs, Lyft, or UBER), please take precautionary measures. Check the license plate, driver information, and the make and model before entering the vehicle. Share your location and route with a friend or family member. Please visit <https://www.uber.com/us/en/ride/safety/campus-safety/> and <https://www.lyft.com/rider/safety> for further information.

Additionally, we advise all students to provide or update their missing person information via my.fairfield. One or more individuals may be listed. This information, separate from your emergency contact information, will be used strictly in the event that a student goes missing.

Survivor Resources

Fairfield University is committed to providing a learning environment free of sexual misconduct including unwanted touching, sexual intercourse, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, and stalking. If you or your friend is a victim of sexual misconduct, you are not alone. There are many confidential and non-confidential resources available to you.

Please visit www.fairfield.edu/survivor for a complete list of resources and reporting options. Please contact the director of Title IX and equity compliance for additional information.

Megan D. Monahan, JD
Director of Title IX and Equity Compliance
Phone: 203-254-4357
E-mail: mmonahan@fairfield.edu

Beach Parties

The beach area known as Lantern Point is a private residential area. The Fairfield Police Department will continue to enforce a zero tolerance policy against public gatherings on the Point. Students who are arrested will not only have to address any charges pending against them through the courts, but will also have to meet with the Office of the Dean of Students to address the matter as a violation of the Student Conduct Code. Our goal is to not have students arrested; therefore, our message is fairly simple: If you live on campus, don't go to the beach uninvited.

Questions or Concerns

Students are welcome to stop by our office in Barone Campus Center 408 to speak with a member of our staff at any time. Please call the Office of the Dean of Students at 203-254-4211 for details.

Thank you for your attention to these important updates. We wish you all a safe and successful start to the semester.