January 2015

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

From: Office of the Dean of Students

Re: Updates for Spring 2015

Welcome back! I hope you had a restful winter break and joyful New Year. As you prepare for the new semester, I wanted to take a moment to share some updates about resources and your safety at Fairfield.

Student Handbook
The 2014-15 Student Handbook is available online. It took effect July 1, 2014, and will remain in effect until further notice. There have been no changes to policy or procedures since the fall semester.

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.

Survivor Resources
Fairfield University is committed to providing a learning environment free of sexual misconduct, including unwanted touching, sexual assault, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, and stalking. If you or your friend are a victim of sexual misconduct, you are not alone and it is not your fault. 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. To file an anonymous report, visit www.fairfield.edu/confidentialreport.

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 not only your valuables but also yourselves.

Parking and Pedestrian Safety Reminder
The University is committed to being a good neighbor, and it is important that members of the University community adhere to regulations restricting parking as well as speed limits on area roads. As a reminder, members of the University may not park their cars on neighborhood streets adjacent to the campus. Owners of vehicles parked in these areas will be notified of their violation by Public Safety.

The neighborhoods in the immediate environs are dense areas of population with many school
children present. Please pay attention to the 25 miles-per-hour speed limit on these streets and exert special caution when school buses are present.

**Beach**
The beach area known as Lantern Point is a private residential area. I understand that on-campus student residents may desire to go to the beach, particularly when the weather gets warmer, but it is nevertheless a fact that areas such as Lantern Point are private property, not public gathering spaces. Further, a permanent injunction issued by the Bridgeport Superior Court specifically prohibits large gatherings in the common areas of Lantern Point. The Fairfield police will continue to enforce a zero tolerance policy. Students who are arrested will not only have to address the charge 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. I do not want to see students being arrested or being put in harm’s way. As a way of proceeding—*if you are a campus resident, don’t go to the beach uninvited.*

**Step-Up Stags / Medical Amnesty**
If a student brings another student or themselves to the Health Center, or calls the Department of Public Safety or Residence Life Staff because of concerns about alcohol or drug consumption, those students generally will not be subject to formal disciplinary action. Fears or concerns about the potential student conduct process should not deter students from seeking appropriate medical or personal assistance. Students who contact Public Safety for help controlling or shutting down a party generally will not be subject to formal disciplinary action. To encourage victims to come forward with reports about sexual misconduct, students will not be sanctioned for revealing in good faith a violation—such as underage drinking—during the process of reporting a sexual violence claim.

**Drop-in Office Hours**
Students are welcome to stop by the Barone Campus Center to talk to the Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs during their scheduled drop-in office hours. Please visit Students411 or call the Office of the Dean of Students at 203-254-4211 for details.

*Karen Donoghue*
Dean of Students