

2018

2018 President's Messages

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Office of the President

Message to the Community: Feb. 2

February 2, 2018 [President's Messages](#)

Today more than ever before, there is a focus in all realms of our society, including in higher education, on combating harassment and other inappropriate behaviors, and on ensuring that we continue to sustain an environment that supports and protects everyone.

We will always respond when such issues are raised, and we intend to continue prevention efforts around these concerns through campuswide initiatives led by the Office of Equal Opportunity, Office of Sexual Assault and Violence Prevention, Office of Multicultural Student Life and Office of Human Resources. We also are fortunate in our community to have many other quality resources, including Student Accessibility Services and the Rising Tide Center, leading our critical, ongoing conversations and best practices in accessibility and gender equity, respectively, to provide a supportive place for everyone to learn and work.

This is a UMaine community effort. A priority. It is important that we all work to make the UMaine community the most diverse, inclusive and safest place possible. We have long advocated — and we take this opportunity to remind our community members again — that if you see something or have concerns of any sort, please reach out to the many offices available to provide assistance. Anonymous reports also can be filed [online](#) with the University of Maine Police Department or with the Office of the Dean of Students (581.1406). These concerns will be addressed immediately.

UMaine and the University of Maine System have long-standing policies and procedures regarding nondiscrimination, sex discrimination, sexual assault, relationship violence, stalking, retaliation and harassment.

As we said in August and repeat today: We hope that these difficult times will serve to strengthen our community. We encourage every member of the UMaine community to continue to work toward a unified front where all people are dignified, respected and supported. We stand together to affirm that harassment or intimidation of any kind will not be accepted. The University of Maine does not tolerate discrimination in any form.

UMaine is a safe, caring and diverse community, where partnership, mutual respect and communication are highly held ideals. This reality will endure.

Susan J. Hunter, President
Jeffrey E. Hecker, Provost
Kody Varahramyan, Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School
Robert Q. Dana, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students