

## A message from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)

6 September 2023

Content warning: This message contains information about sexual assault and sexual harassment which you may find distressing.

Dear students,

I regret to inform you that we have become aware of an incident that took place at the Fisher Library on Thursday 31 August 2023 and we are working closely with the NSW Police to ensure our community is protected.

We have a zero-tolerance approach to all incidents of sexual misconduct and are disturbed and appalled by the alleged conduct.

We encourage any student who has witnessed or experienced sexual harassment or assault to report it to the University's Safer Communities Office so that they can receive the support they may need.

Our highest priority is providing a safe, respectful and supportive environment for all of our students and staff.

We have a strong security presence across campus, including various help access points and will take additional measures as needed to ensure the safety and welfare of our community.

## **Support from our Safer Communities Office**

Our <u>Safer Communities Office</u> is available for anyone who would like to make a disclosure or seek support. There are options to remain anonymous and bilingual counsellors are available on request.

This office can be contacted by telephone on +61 2 8627 6808 (Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm AEST), by email to <a href="mailto:safer-communities.officer@sydney.edu.au">safer-communities.officer@sydney.edu.au</a> or through the <a href="mailto:University's online reporting forms">University's online reporting forms</a>. The Safer Communities Office also has a partnership with the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital Sexual Assault Counselling Services, which provides priority access to counselling. Please contact the Safer Communities Office to arrange an appointment.

<u>In an emergency</u>, you should contact emergency services by dialling triple zero (000).

If you feel unsafe on campus or are concerned for someone else's safety, you can also contact Protective Services on 9351 3333, 24 hours a day.

I want to take this opportunity to remind our community of our expectations for student conduct, as set out in our <u>Student Charter</u> and <u>Sexual Misconduct Policy</u>.

I understand this is distressing news and I encourage you to please seek support if you need it.

Kind regards, Joanne

Professor Joanne Wright
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)

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