

Update on Fisher Library incident

24 October 2023

Content warning: This message contains information about sexual misconduct which you may find distressing.

Dear students,

I am writing to provide you with an update on <u>our message to you on 6 September</u> about an incident that took place in Fisher Library earlier this year.

That incident allegedly involved a student recording images of another person without their knowledge or consent. The responsible student was arrested and charged by NSW Police and has been suspended by the University. He is not permitted to enter University lands or to attend any University classes or activities, including online classes.

We have been working closely with the NSW Police and were recently distressed to learn from them that the student is also alleged to have recorded inappropriate video images of other people in a number of other locations on campus. The Police have informed us that, to the best of their knowledge, the images have not been uploaded or shared online.

This alleged conduct is completely unacceptable and the University has a zero-tolerance approach to all forms of sexual misconduct. Our <u>Sexual Misconduct Policy</u> clearly states that recording an intimate image of another person without their consent is prohibited and breaks the law. We will continue to work with the Police to try to identify people in the video images.

Support

We understand that this news will be distressing for some members of our community. Our priority is your safety and wellbeing, and we encourage anyone who needs support or believes they may have been filmed to contact the Student Liaison Officers in the University's Safer Communities Office. The Student Liaison Officers are specialist staff with experience in supporting students who are the victims of crimes and other forms of misconduct.

The <u>Safer Communities Office</u> can be contacted by phone on 8627 6808 or by email at <u>safer-communities.officer@sydney.edu.au</u> Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm AEDT. The team is available to chat in person, or via phone or Zoom. If you wish to seek support after hours, please contact the after-hours mental wellbeing support line by calling 1300 474 065 or by texting 0488 884 429 (5 pm to 9 am AEDT on weekdays, 24/7 weekends and public holidays). Bilingual staff are available on request, including Mandarin speaking staff, and you can remain anonymous if you wish.

If at any time you feel unsafe on campus or you are concerned for someone else's safety, you can contact Protective Services on 9351 3333, 24 hours a day. In an emergency, you should contact emergency services by dialling triple zero (000).

We have a strong security presence across campus, including various emergency help points (which can be found under 'amenities' on our <u>campus maps</u>) and will take additional measures as needed to ensure the safety and welfare of our community.

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

Our community's safety is our top priority and we have significant support options available, please don't hesitate to ask for help if you need it.

Kind regards, Joanne

Professor Joanne Wright
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)

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