

August 22, 2019

As we begin the Fall 2019 semester, I'd like to welcome our new and returning students to Muhlenberg College. For those who were away from campus the last few months, you missed a flurry of activity. Staff members across campus have worked to implement new ideas and resources for students' arrival and the upcoming academic year. It's an exciting time to be back at Muhlenberg College.

Here are just a few of the updates I'm excited to share:

### **NEW TEAM MEMBERS AND LISTENING TO STUDENT CONCERNS**

**I'm pleased to introduce new members of the student affairs team:**



**Kyaana Cox-Jones** is interim assistant director of multicultural life. Kyaana, formerly of the Department of Theatre & Dance, will work with the Emerging Leaders program and student cultural affinity groups and will support broader educational outreach efforts on behalf of the Office of Multicultural Life.



**Jules Purnell**, associate director of prevention education, will oversee the College's prevention efforts as they relate to critical issues of healthy relationships, consent, sexual misconduct, equity and inclusion and alcohol and other drugs.



**Aliya Kenyatta**, staff counselor in counseling services, is a post-graduate fellow who is passionate about diversity and challenging students to learn about themselves through a cultural lens.

**Student input** is critical to improving and assessing how student affairs operates and serves the College community. Following student concerns voiced through a group known as Student Action and other individual students in the spring semester, members of the Dean of Students Office worked with students to gather important feedback and input on ways to clarify our Student Conduct and Equal Opportunity policies and procedures to emphasize rights and protections for students. This included improving our awareness efforts to ensure all members of our community understand the College's stance on bias-related conduct, diversifying representation on student-conduct panels and ensuring all decision-makers are specifically trained on implicit bias and identity-informed questioning and decision-making. Changes have been made to our trainings, recruitment processes and policy language to reflect these concerns. In addition, we are working to finalize a new conduct database designed to catalog hate and bias incidents on campus and the College's response to those reports.

### **RESOURCES, POLICIES, SUPPORT AND SAFETY**

**Students experiencing a specific financial hardship**, including food or housing insecurity or the need for supplemental funding to support an activity at the College, can now access new emergency and experiential learning grant opportunities, obtain emergency food and school supplies by visiting the M.U.L.E. (Muhlenberg Useful Living Essentials) Community Cabinet in Seegers 059 and access other resources for support. To learn more, visit our [Financial Hardship site](#).

Last year, the College made the decision to become a **smoke- and tobacco-free campus**. You can read more about that new policy on the [Dean of Students website](#). This regulation, which includes all types of smoke and smokeless tobacco products, extends to all community members, visitors to campus and vehicles on campus.



We continue to expand the number of **gender-inclusive restrooms**. New additions include the Life Sports Center, Moyer Hall and Walz residence hall. For a full map of inclusive restrooms, view our [campus map page](#).

As a reminder, students who would like to officially update their **preferred name** in the College's records and systems may contact the Registrar's Office at any time.

To better support students with **food allergies**, the College will be installing epinephrine auto-injectors in the Wood Dining Commons and General's Quarters. Muhlenberg Dining will be among the staff trained to administer an injection if a customer is in need. In addition, Muhlenberg Dining has recently taken a number of additional steps to support students with food allergies. For more information, visit [dining.muhlenberg.edu/news](http://dining.muhlenberg.edu/news).

Attached to this letter, you will find information related to the most up-to-date **safety procedures** regarding an active shooter or other dangerous situation on campus. Training sessions will be held this fall for community members to learn more about the College's response efforts and how you can do your part in the event of an emergency. Campus Safety will also be providing opportunities for faculty, staff and students to participate in **bystander education programs** that combine hands-only CPR and Stop the Bleed training. Information will be made available as dates are scheduled.

#### **STUDENT AND CAMPUS LIFE**

The College recently completed a thorough **fraternity expansion** process, and as a result, we will welcome two organizations back to campus this year: Alpha Epsilon Pi this fall and Phi Kappa Tau this spring. We are completing a process with Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. in the hopes of establishing the first historically black Greek-letter organization on campus.

**Changes to campus environments** include the removal of The Courts, a temporary residence location. In its place, the College will add green space that will be available for events, recreation, reflection, relaxing and connecting with friends. We've also installed a variety of new furniture in your favorite study and social spaces on campus designed to help you unplug, recharge and block out noise and distractions.

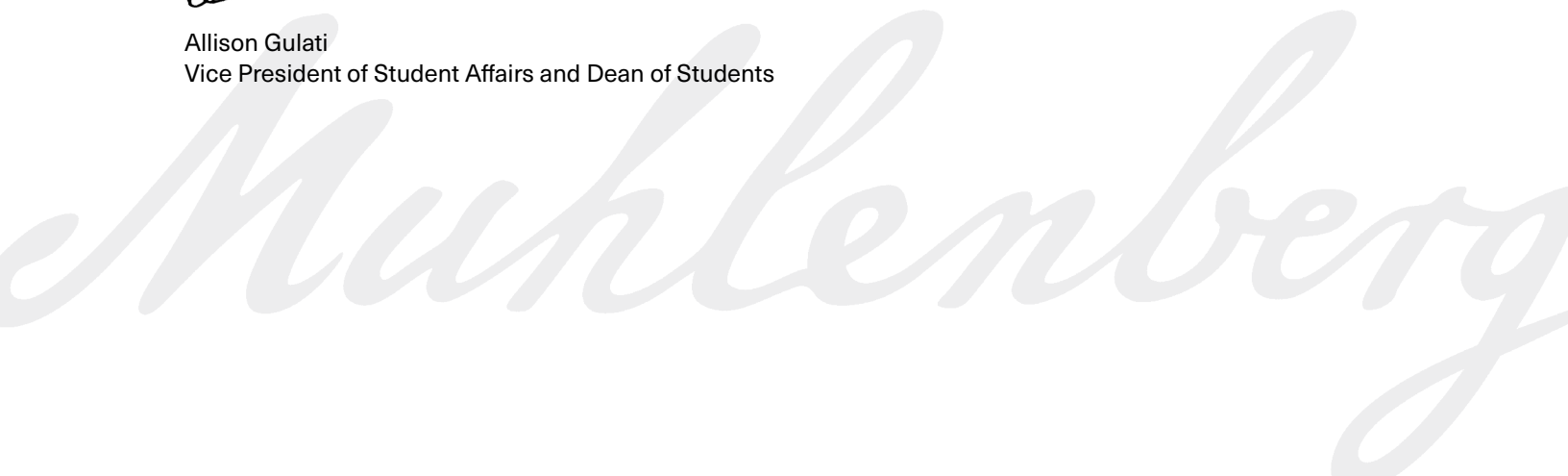
I realize that this is a lot of information; if you have questions about any of the updates in this letter, feel free to reach out to my office at [deanofstudents@muhlenberg.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@muhlenberg.edu) or 484-664-3182. If we haven't met yet, know that my door and my staff are always open to student concerns, comments and friendly greetings.

The entire Muhlenberg College community is committed to your success and to ensuring a productive and exciting academic year.

Go Mules!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Allison Gulati'.

Allison Gulati  
Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students



# What You Should Do During An Active Campus Threat ~ Follow E2 Campus Alerts and ...



## THE 3 OUTS

### GET OUT

of your classroom, building or area immediately! Use exits, ground floor windows, or clear paths and get as far away from the threat as possible

### LOCK OUT

the threat. Gather folks from unsecured areas & lock, barricade, tie off the door. Turn off lights, remain quiet.

### TAKE OUT

as a last resort. In case of attack, try to incapacitate the intruder. Use improvised weapons, work with others.

## IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

REPORT ANY POTENTIAL THREATS TO A COLLEGE OFFICIAL YOU TRUST AND/OR CALL CAMPUS SAFETY @ 484-664-3110