

Letter from President Hogan

April 19, 2010

Dear Students,

As we approach Spring Weekend, I write to encourage you to avoid situations that put you and members of our community at risk.

We recognize that many of the problematic outcomes of Spring Weekend are the result of actions taken not by our students, but by visitors from outside our community. You have asked that we do more to discourage these outsiders from visiting the campus on Spring Weekend. Let me assure you that additional measures will be taken to protect your safety.

Nonetheless, our students also host visitors and some do engage in behavior that is not tolerated under the Student Conduct Code. Such behavior results in disciplinary action that can undermine one's future as a UConn student.

Please consider this as you decide how and where you will participate in Spring Weekend. I urge you to opt-in to the many University-sponsored events and avoid situations that could endanger you or others.

In the past few years, I've visited some of the sites of non-University events that occur during Spring Weekend. As a parent of four college graduates, I saw myself acting on behalf of you and your parents, encouraging our students to look after one another, be safe, and behave in responsible ways. Unfortunately, some have misconstrued these efforts on my part as an indication of my support for non-University events.

Consequently, you'll see less of me at non-University gatherings during Spring Weekend this year, as I don't want my presence to even appear to sanction these gatherings or behavior that may put members of our community at risk.

Again, please consider carefully your actions during Spring Weekend. I also ask that you look after one another, walk with friends, and do not remain in any setting that even hints at aggressive or illegal behavior.

I'm proud of the compassionate and supportive community in which we live. I'm proud of the many accomplishments of our students. We can reclaim Spring Weekend as a celebration of these accomplishments by standing together to celebrate them in positive, community-building ways. By doing so, we can change the negative image that taints the reputation of our students and the University.

Please join me in promoting the integrity, respect, and compassion that truly represents what it means to be a UConn Husky.

Sincerely,

Mike Michael J. Hogan President