

Dear Faculty Member:

As we begin our 2010-2011 academic year, I am writing to provide important information about several aspects of student life on campus that are of concern to all of us, as well as to offer strategies for addressing potentially problematic situations. Our students are encouraged to embrace the True Bruin values of Integrity, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, and Service, and to build these values into their everyday lives. Unfortunately, that doesn't always happen. Through this letter, I hope to detail both the campus resources that can be extremely helpful and, more importantly, to enlist your support and participation in preserving UCLA's reputation for greatness.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is taken seriously at UCLA. Creating a climate that is conducive to the honest exchange of ideas assists students in their pursuit of quality scholarship. Yet, academic dishonesty continues to be an issue in institutions of higher education everywhere. The Office of the Dean of Students is charged with responding when students are accused of committing a violation of policy. The *UCLA Student Conduct Code* outlines the processes by which allegations of academic misconduct are addressed (<http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/SCC10.pdf>).

While enforcement is important, you also play a major role in prevention. The Office of the Dean of Students' website offers a wide range of resources focused on the maintenance of academic integrity, including techniques for preventing, identifying, and responding to academic misconduct (<http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/faculty.html>).

Also, if you aren't already familiar with Turnitin.com, information about this on-line tool that assists in the detection of plagiarism and, ultimately, its prevention, is available on your MyUCLA page (<http://my.ucla.edu>) next to the icons for the Electronic Gradebook and real-time Course Rosters.

Disruptive Behavior

Sometimes, students' behavior in class can interfere with your instructional activities. While most instances of disruptive behavior in the classroom do not rise to the level of Code violations, they do require action. Our website offers Tips for Classroom Management that may be helpful in responding to these incidents. In cases of more serious disruptive behavior, you should contact the Office of the

Dean of Students or, in cases where there are concerns for safety, contact the UCPD directly.

Distressed and Distressing Students

In recent years, members of the campus community have been increasingly contacting my office with concerns regarding students' emotional well-being and safety. When a student is at-risk or in crisis, responding to the student's needs and providing appropriate referrals can prevent an escalation of the situation and help keep the student and our campus community safe. UCLA's Consultation & Response Team (CRT) was formed to provide **education** to the campus community on resources available to assist students in crisis or at-risk; to provide **consultation** to members of the campus community who are concerned about the well-being of a student; and to provide appropriate **response** to the needs of individual students. Please visit the CRT website at <http://www.studentincrisis.ucla.edu/>.

If you observe behavior that is concerning, please take action to get help for the student. Dr. Karen Minero, the campus' Student Care Manager, is the CRT contact person. She can be reached at kminero@saonet.ucla.edu or by phone at (310) 825-0628. Of course, if you should face an emergency on campus, you should immediately contact UCPD at (310) 825-1491.

Finally, I want to offer a quick update on staffing changes in the Office of the Dean of Students. Associate Deans of Students Cary Porter and Joan Nelson, both longtime colleagues for many of you, took retirement from UCLA at the end of the 2009-10 academic year. Dr. Kevin Dougherty and Jasmine Rush, both excellent, experienced student affairs professionals, have joined our staff as Assistant Deans of Students. Dr. Deb Geller, Executive Director for Community Standards, is now providing the day-to-day operational leadership to the office.

If you are interested in a special presentation for your department on any of the topics addressed above, please feel free to contact the Office of the Dean of Students at (310) 825-3871 or by e-mail at dean@saonet.ucla.edu.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Naples

Associate Vice Chancellor, Student and Campus Life
and Dean of Students