



Alumni and Parent Engagement <parents@lclark.edu>

Protecting our campus community

9.11.24

Dear Parents,

The following message was shared with the campus community earlier today out of an abundance of caution to keep you informed.



Dear L&C Campus Community,

We recently became aware of plans by a group of students, and potentially individuals outside of our community, to put the campus community at risk and disrupt our operations.

The information we have seen is not a general threat. It is a detailed roadmap that outlines plans to seize campus property through aggressive and, potentially, violent means, to occupy the Frank Manor House, to intentionally disrupt campus operations and to endanger employees and other occupants of the building by physically removing them. The plan indicates the group's intention to escalate resistance through multiple and indefinite occupation phases, and to use violence against those who attempt to restore campus operations. Unfortunately, plans like these only undermine the good intentions of the majority of our students who want to make a positive difference in the world.

A team of experts has examined the plan and deemed the threat credible. The nature of what the group has laid out has prompted us to prioritize the safety of the campus community, which includes alerting you about what we have learned and the measures we are taking to ensure safety and normal operations.

The Manor House is now closed to all but essential Manor House staff. Employees and other occupants have been provided with information and support resources. Additional security measures are also being implemented.

In addition, given the group's stated intention to occupy an area outside of the Manor House as a prelude to occupying the Manor House itself, we will not allow the establishment of any encampment on College property.

L&C continues to uphold and support free speech and the right to peaceful protest. In order to balance these rights with the right of every student to access their education and the right of every employee to a safe workplace, we have put in place clear [Protest Policies](#). We do not discipline students or others who are in compliance with these policies. We did not discipline students who participated in protest activities in Spring 2024. We do not intend to pursue

disciplinary actions against students who participate in peaceful protest that complies with College policies, or those that work with us in good faith, collaboratively, and as a community.

However, anyone who violates an institutional policy or incites campus violence is subject to disciplinary processes and/or removal from campus. Breaking and entering, assault, and the destruction of property are criminal offenses, as well as violations of College policies. Such acts are not acceptable in any community, and are particularly unacceptable in a supportive learning community such as ours, and they will not be tolerated.

As our Student Life leadership has repeatedly stated, we are eager to engage in constructive conversation with any individual or group who has concerns they want to bring to our attention.

We would welcome such conversations with students, as well as staff and faculty. But we cannot engage with anyone making anonymous demands or threats. We can only engage together as respectful community members who care about the world and each other.

It is up to all of us to create the kind of campus community we want. Our hope is to continue to actively work with all of you to shape a Lewis & Clark community that is a model for other campuses, one where we talk through complicated issues and work together to find a way forward.

As a reminder, if you have additional information, immediate safety concerns, or an emergency, please contact Campus Safety at (503) 768-7777. Students can access services through this [Student Support Services](#) page and employees may access services through the [Employee Assistance Program](#).

Sincerely,

President Robin H. Holmes Sullivan and Executive Council



Alumni and Parent Engagement

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