

June 23, 2009

Members of the Pacific Community:

Due to a recently publicized sexual assault lawsuit filed against the University, some have questioned the University's position on sexual misconduct involving students. I am writing to reiterate the University's zero tolerance for any type of known sexual misconduct, and the high priority we place on student safety.

Donald V. DeRosa
President

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Our policy states that "Pacific community members shall be able to pursue their interests in a safe and respectful environment free from any form of sexual misconduct. The University will not tolerate such acts against its members, will evaluate any known incidents of alleged sexual misconduct, and, when appropriate, apply judicial action," as well as work cooperatively with local law enforcement and other agencies.

I encourage you to familiarize yourself with the University's relevant policies, procedures, and resources as stated in the student handbook, "Tiger Lore," and available at <http://web.pacific.edu/x24412.xml>. These policies and procedures are based on best practices in higher education, and are aimed at providing a safe environment for student learning and development.

The University provides many resources in our efforts to prevent sexual assault, create better awareness, and support victims. Our policies and resources are promoted during incoming student orientations, on our website, and in the student handbook distributed annually to all students. The University's investments in programs to support this policy include guest speakers, workshops, RA training sessions, counseling and health services, and a Victim's Advocate on call 24/7.

For more information, please feel free to contact our staff in the Division of Student Life.



Donald V. DeRosa
President