



November 15, 2011

**President Bill Ruud's Message to the Shippensburg Family
About the Safety and Security of Our Campus**

It is our shared goal, and collective responsibility, to provide a safe and secure campus to all who use it — students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

The recent revelations and media accounts involving allegations of sexual abuse/sexual assault of minor children at Penn State make it incumbent upon me to reinforce to the university community our obligation to make sure children who visit our campus are protected.

One of the practical questions for each of us is: **To whom should I bring my concern?**

If you see, hear about, or know about possible child abuse on our campus, please immediately contact University Police at **717-477-1444**. After making this phone call: If you are a faculty or staff member, please inform your immediate supervisor who in turn will contact his/her respective vice president. If you are a student, please inform the Dean of Student's Office who in turn will contact his/her respective vice president. What is essential is that University Police are notified ***immediately*** in order for investigatory procedures to be implemented.

Our policies and practices addressing how to contact and report matters of concern to the University Police, Office of Social Equity, and Student Affairs provide appropriate avenues for all of us to do what we are required to do, as well as what basic human decency tells us we should do. Re-enforcing the need for doing the right thing is a role that colleges and universities must play in teaching leadership, responsibility, and good citizenship.

In conjunction with requirements from the Chancellor and our Board of Governors and with the support of our Council of Trustees, we will review and revisit all standards, policies and programs to ensure they meet not only the law, but Shippensburg's standard. Those include the following policies and procedures:

- Sexual harassment (including reporting requirements, where reports can be made, how reports are made, etc.)
- Abuse, sexual and otherwise (including reporting requirements, where reports can be made, how reports are made, etc.)

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- Unwanted sexual activity (including reporting requirements, where reports can be made, how reports are made, etc.)
- Illegal activity, such as child pornography (including reporting requirements, where reports can be made, how reports are made, etc.)
- Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Federal reporting laws and ensuring that all employees and students are aware of them

As our policies are reviewed — and as needed — we will communicate with the entire Ship community as to their continuing role.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bill