

May 1, 2018

Dear Binghamton Parent,

As the Chairman of the Binghamton University Parent Leadership Council (PLC), I am writing to you today to address the recent events at the University that have caused our parents and students consternation and concern. I know that a number of communications have been issued by President Stenger and the University Administration to keep you informed and updated. As parents of current and former Binghamton students, the PLC has a unique deep connection with the University. That is why the members of the PLC grieve with the families of Haley and Joao during these difficult days, and pledge to do all we can to assure that similar tragedies do not occur in the future.

Let me assure you that the Binghamton University administration goes to great lengths to provide a truly safe environment for our students. The recent tragedies were not random events, but instead, violent acts targeted at particular two individuals. By their very nature, they were almost impossible to predict or prevent. Nevertheless, University administrators and staff are reviewing communications procedures deployed to determine how they could have been more effective, as well as how safety can be further improved to enhance student life on and off campus. These reviews are ongoing and will continue through the summer. The University, along with parents, will now work together to help ensure that our students can move through the conclusion of the semester successfully, and that seniors will be able to graduate in mid-May.

Many parents have contacted the University expressing concern and making suggestions. The University is reviewing these suggestions and is looking forward to working with parents to allay fears and improve safety. The PLC is an advocate for students and parents. It complements and supports the University's strategic directives and initiatives; as advocates we have been working with the Administration in their safety review initiative.

The University has many services available to help students deal with issues and concerns. Parents can obtain insight into available services and resources by visiting <https://www.binghamton.edu/case-management/>, as a starting point. Other resources can be reached from there.

If you would like to talk with a PLC member, or have a questions for one of us, please email [families@binghamton.edu](mailto:families@binghamton.edu). We stand ready to work with you and with the University to make your students' experience a memorable one.

Thank you,  
Harry Sharlach  
Chair, Parents Leadership Council (PLC)

See more about us:

<https://www.binghamton.edu/parents/get-involved/parents-leadership-council.html>