

Monday Matters: Threat Assessment

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To: Dodge, Gail <gdodge@odu.edu>

Cc: Whitfield, Tiffany L. <tlwhitfi@odu.edu>

Dear Colleagues:

I recently heard a presentation (attached) from Jennifer Steczo, the Coordinator of the Threat, Education, Assessment, and Management (TEAM). The threat assessment team is responsible for evaluating and managing the risks associate with certain behaviors that may pose a threat to the University Community. The goal is to have one group that sees all reports of concerning behaviors so that they can connect the dots and intervene to de-escalate problematic behavior before it becomes violent. Slide 9 of the attached presentation lists the types of behaviors that should be reported to the Threat Assessment Team. Here is a snapshot.

WHAT TO REPORT

<p>COMMUNICATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explicit or veiled statements about harming someone or themselves • Making statements that support the use of violence to resolve issues • Sending disturbing messages • Disturbing social media postings • Coursework content that is alarming 	<p>BEHAVIOR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disruptive or inappropriate outburst • Disregard for personal boundaries • Stalking or fixation • Preoccupation with weapons, violent events, or persons who have engaged in violent acts • Intolerance or hardened viewpoints
<p>SIGNS OF SIGNIFICANT DISTRESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extreme reaction to a loss or traumatic event • Strained interpersonal relations, isolating behaviors, or low self-esteem. • Paranoia 	<p>SUDDEN CHANGES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncharacteristically poor performance • Increase in alcohol or drug use • Unusual or abrupt changes in behaviors or patterns

To report a behavior like those mentioned above, you can use the form at odu.edu/team or email Jennifer Steczo at jsteczo@odu.edu (683-5798). There are some useful FAQs in the attached powerpoint. Their goal is to help members of our community who may need support and prevent violence.

Best Regards,
Gail

Upcoming Events:

- Science Fridays: 4 pm in PSB 1100
 - Oct. 14: Jiangwen Sun (CS) & Erin Purcell (Chem & Biochem)
 - Nov. 11: Sandipan Dutta (Math & Stat) & Jeff Olenick (Psych)
- [Mars Fest](#): Oct. 14 – 16, 6 – 10 pm
- President Hemphill's investiture ceremony: Oct. 21, 10 am Chartway Arena
 - Faculty are encouraged to attend. Academic regalia; RSVP at <https://forms.office.com/r/L55H4B8EqS> no later than October 14, 2022.
- Opportunity Networking Event (research, internship, and volunteer opportunities)
 - November 9, 11 am – 3 pm, Big Blue Room in the Chartway Arena
- College of Sciences Holiday Party: Dec. 8, 12 – 2 pm, Big Blue Room in the Chartway Arena

Gail Dodge

12/12/22, 9:29 AM

Mail - Whitfield, Tiffany L. - Outlook

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