Dear Campus Community Member;

We would like to inform you of a crime that has recently been reported in the campus area so you have the information you need to take the appropriate precautions. We are issuing this Campus Safety Alert in accordance with the “Timely Warning” provision of the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act of 1998. We are sending this message to heighten your awareness, to enable you to take actions which can help increase your safety, and to aid in the prevention of similar crimes. We are not including certain details in this alert so as to avoid releasing identifying information about the victim.

REPORTED OFFENSE:

The Gettysburg College Department of Public Safety has received a report that a student has been receiving harassing messages and sexually explicit pictures via social media platforms and text messaging while on campus. The Gettysburg Police Department and Public Safety are investigating.

SUSPECT(S):

The suspect is a non-student known to the victim.

CRIME CLASSIFICATION/DEFINITION:

For crime reporting purposes, the federal government defines Stalking as: Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to fear for the person’s safety or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.

REPORTING:

DPS can be contacted by calling (717)337-6912 or (717)337-6911 for emergency purposes. Additionally; criminal incidents can be reported to the Gettysburg Borough Police by calling 911. Incidents of a non-emergency nature can be reported by completing the on-line community concern form at: http://www.gettysburg.edu/about/offices/college_life/care/submit-a-concern/ or by calling the DPS crime tips hotline at: (717)337-8477 (TIPS).

What to do if you are being Stalked:

1. Trust your instincts. Victims of stalking often feel pressured by friends or family to downplay the stalker’s behavior, but stalking poses a real threat of harm. Your safety is paramount.
2. Call the public safety department/police if you feel you are in any immediate danger. Explain why even some actions that seem harmless—like leaving you a gift—are causing you concern.
3. Keep a record or log of each contact with the stalker.
4. Stalkers often use technology to contact their victims. Save all e-mails, text messages, photos, and postings on social networking sites as evidence of the stalking behavior.