

April 24, 2019

Notice to Protesters Regarding Use of the Second Floor Balcony and ADA Doors

The university continues to make every effort to support and accommodate the ongoing protest in Garland Hall but remains concerned about the protesters' unwillingness to follow basic requests to ensure health, safety and wellbeing of all students, faculty, staff, and visitors, including themselves. In addition to the information in prior notices, the university is again providing written and verbal notice of the following two areas of concern:

Dangerous Activity on Balcony and Stairways

Protesters are being permitted to remain in Garland Hall in areas of the first floor lobby that have been specifically identified and are clearly marked, in consultation with the Baltimore City Fire Marshal and the university's Office of Health, Safety & Environment. Use of the stairs or second floor balcony for congregating, sleeping or sitting is not merely disruptive but unsafe. More specifically:

1. The balcony is designed and intended solely as a pathway.
2. The balcony must permit unimpeded ingress and egress.
3. The balcony may not be used for sleeping, sitting or congregating.
4. Jumping, dancing or moving in unison on the balcony or stairs is especially dangerous and must be avoided.
5. Balcony and stair railings are not designed to contain or support large numbers of people.

Tampering with ADA-Required Door Mechanisms

Also of continued concern is the persistent propping open of doors at all hours of the day and night and failure to follow basic identification requests. The use of duct tape or other devices to tamper with, disable, or damage the ADA-required door mechanisms is a clear conduct violation, potential destruction of property, and thoughtless action affecting fellow students, faculty, staff and visitors who rely on such doors to access services in Garland Hall.

Anyone who tampers with or damages ADA door mechanisms, or otherwise damages any university property, will be subject to conduct proceedings, required to reimburse the university for any needed repairs, and may face additional consequences.