

April 12, 2019

Notice Regarding Weekend Hours for Garland Hall

The university strongly supports free expression, including protests and demonstrations, as reflected in our guidelines and statements on academic freedom and free expression.

Students have broad support for expression, including expression of controversial or critical views. However, students and others do not have the right to occupy buildings, disrupt events and services that jeopardize the university's mission, endanger the health and safety of its members, or suppress the speech of others. The students and community members occupying the lobby and other spaces of Garland Hall are currently in contravention of these policies.

Nonetheless, the university has made and continues to make operational adjustments in order to ensure the health and safety of students, staff, faculty, and visitors.

Garland Hall is closed on weekends from Friday at 6 pm to Monday at 7 am, except during special university events (such as Alumni Weekend). Garland Hall will be closed as per standard practice this weekend as well. However, the university will open the building for the purpose of allowing protestors to come and go as needed between the hours of 8 am and 11 am on Saturday and Sunday. This accommodation is temporary and will be re-evaluated as needed to ensure health and safety, including throughout the weekend.

As a reminder, the university requires all individuals who enter Garland Hall to present ID or sign in, and per the Baltimore City Fire Marshal, no more than 73 persons may be in the lobby area at any one time. Additionally, during the protest, no more than 35 persons may remain when the building is closed.

Protest participants must abide by Baltimore City fire code requirements and all other laws and regulations, as well as university policy and the student code of conduct.