

Graduate College Council Meeting  
December 14, 2022

Attendees: Michael Alexo, Constantin Bacuta, Harsh Bais, Louise Bank, Federica Bianco, Thomas Buckley, Jeff Buler, Nigel Caplan, Clara Chan, Emily Davis, Chelsia Douglas, Lu Ann DeCunzo, Amy Griffin, Lars Gundlach, Elizabeth Hagovsky, Rena Hallam, Aviva Heyn, Rebecca Hunting Pompon, George Irvine, Steven Kendus, Kelli Kerbawy, Bramie Lenhoff, Susan Lewis, Mary Martin, LaRuth McAfee, Michael Michaud, Joanne Miller, Maria Anne Purciello, Bernadette Racicot, Charlie Riordan, Cindy Rechsteiner, Lou Rossi, Barbara Settles, Suprawee Tepsuporn, Siyan Wang, Shuo Wei, Owen White, Brad Wolgast, Danilo Yanich, Joshua Zide, Ryan Zurakowski, Paul Laux (by video to take minutes)

Meeting called to order at 3:335PM

Agenda and minutes adopted without objection.

Dean's Report (Lou Rossi, see his slides)

- UD implementation of Federal vaccine mandate on hold as that works its way through the courts
- Grad applications are down vs. last year, by about the same amount as those were up. Still high versus a few years ago.
- New interfaith space available.
- First use of 'fast track' program approval was completed at Faculty Senate, with 2 programs approved.
- Outward facing program dashboards are up, and Graduate College will continue to build on these
- Student wellness issues that involve faculty are arising. A resource will be developed for students to deal with this. In meantime, issues could be brought to the dean.
- Regarding interdisciplinary programs, questions have arisen.
  - Grad College hosts 7 programs that span colleges (see slides for listing)
  - Value proposition for this is to attract students, help faculty access those students for work, organize funding and support across college lines so program directors don't have to, economize on support staff efforts to have functions across program (admissions, eg) , and promote interdisciplinary programs.
  - Operational issues notes (see slides): tuition flows to host departments according to budget model, some combined events for students, programs have bylaws (like a mini-department), some programs have seminar series in cooperation with departments, students are eligible for fellowships as in single-discipline programs, programs control their admission just as in single-discipline programs--but supporting contracts for students support my start with the funding department.
    - Some questions followed about budget cash flows. Currently a slice of generated revenues goes to disciplinary colleges. In future, the slice will go to colleges and departments directly on a split. There is a 50% 'contractual obligation' to central. The

Graduate College budget does not automatically rise if its program generate more taxes, that would have to happen over time based on negotiation.

- Interdisciplinary Frontier Graduate and Postdoctoral Fellows Program
  - Dean is proposing
  - Piloting in AY 22-23
  - From problems of profound importance
  - Create a collaboration that breaks through an institutional barrier
  - Teams of (rough indication) 3 students and 3 faculty, perhaps a post-doc
  - Expect an RFP early in the new year
  - Application deadline expected to be March 1; Dean expresses some flexibility on this
- Dean proposes a Bylaws change so that Report to Faculty Senate comes in April-May not September-October
  - Moved: Joanne Miller
  - Second: Joshua Zide
  - No discussion occurred
  - Motion passed. No negative votes noted on Zoom.
- Closing thoughts from Dean
  - Wants to work on holistic achievement and success for students, including plans for individual students
  - Continuing to explore moving 12 months of support for Ph.D. students
  - Nearly 200 grad students are now being mentored by grad alumni
  - Discussions going on about childcare for grad students
  - See slides for numbers on duration of grad student support (duration of support has been growing somewhat)

Comments on childcare for graduate students (Emily Davis, see her slides)

- Graduate students have been asking for this
- A group of faculty and students is working on applying for a grant for this
- A survey is being sent out to get more info locally to support the effort
- Grant application is due June 1
- Dean has agreed to provide funding to have a resource page built for grad student parents, as a shorter term goal (spring semester)
- Comments: Please don't forget satellite campuses; suggest to be sure to include part time and non traditional students in the survey

Report from visitor on student mental health support (Brad Wolgast, Center for Counseling and Student Development)(see his slides)

- Newly housed a Warner Hall, next to Laurel Hall
- Slides are detailed and track his presentation closely--please refer to them--not all details transcribed here
- UD has a new VP of Wellbeing starting soon, will oversee Counseling Center and other units
- One of his slides is a contact and offerings (drop-in, crisis hours, etc) listing for Fall 2021--a Spring one will be coming
- Typically a student enters the system via a triage appointment, usually within 2 weeks

- If not soon enough, crisis appointments are available daily
- If a faculty member feels there is a need, student should ask for one of these
- Online appointment making is coming, but is probably a year off (cites confidentiality issues to work through)
- UD Helpline is available 24 hours. Goes to an outsourced provider
- A common faculty question is: "What if my referral does not work." His slides list 3 web pages that are resources for this situation (slide 11)
- Opens for questions
  - A Grad Alumni Mentoring Program has been started. A first meeting with mentors have touched some issues. Some alumni are asking how to get students to counselling pipeline based on those concerns. BW suggests faculty ask the student to come in, not that a concern was raised, explore, suggest Counseling Center if seems appropriate
  - Is program for grads and undergrads? Are there special aspects for grad students. A: For all, some special programs (e.g., groups) for grad students and some evening hours.
  - How can a faculty member follow up after suggesting someone reach out to counseling? Confidentiality prevents Counseling from passing info, unless student authorizes. Students are often willing to. BW suggests ask the students, get a sense if they followed through or were satisfied. Suggest to call Counseling if need seems there--even though Counseling cannot respond to faculty, they can take the info and act on it.
  - Last year there was a suggestion to start a support group for students of color. It was started---has it continued? It has not continued due to staffing, could run again in spring. Suggests to tell students to let the Center know of desire for it. Sharon Lee is director for groups--she is the best person to reach out to. There will be a list of all groups for spring, and will be distributed across campus. Also posted on Counseling Center website.

Next meeting is February 14 at 330pm

Meeting adjourns 4:40PM

## **Grad College Council Meeting 2/14/22 @ 3:30pm**

### Agenda Items

1. Call to order
2. Secretary's Report – (1 min)
  1. Approval of agenda (please review prior to meeting)
  2. Approval of minutes from December meeting (please review prior to meeting)
2. Dean's report (Rossi) – (20 min)
  - a. Graduate College portfolios and contacts
  - b. Admissions and fellowship funding updates
  - c. Diversity, equity and inclusion in the Graduate College
  - d. New graduate program creation guide
  - e. Interdisciplinary Frontier Graduate and Postdoctoral Fellows Program
1. Chair's overview of spring meetings and current projects (Davis) – (5 min)
  - a. Childcare: combined faculty and graduate student application for CCAMPIS grant
5. Standing reports – (5 min)
  - a. Graduate student report on graduate priorities and concerns (graduate student proxy rep)
6. Committee reports – (20 min)
  - a. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Committee (Desimone)
  - b. Graduate Student Life Committee? (Zurakowski)
7. New business
  - a. March 14, 3:30 meeting:
  - b. Any Graduate Council Members may bring an item before council for discussion
8. Adjourn



# Graduate College Council Meeting

12/13/21

3:30-4:30pm

# Agenda

Call to order

Approval of agenda

Approval of minutes from November meeting

Dean's report and resolution (Rossi) – (20 min)

a. General updates

b. Proposed bylaw revision to allow Dean's annual report to Fac Sen in fall

Chair's update on year-long theme (Davis) – (5 min)

a. Childcare: combined faculty and graduate student app for CCAMPIS grant

Q&A session with Brad Wolgast, co-director Counseling Services (30 minutes)

New business

a. February 14, 3:30 meeting:

b. Any council Members may bring an item before council for discussion

Adjourn



# Dean's report and questions

(20 min)

Lou Rossi

## Revision of Bylaws:

“During the five (5) year provisional period, the Dean of the Graduate College shall provide an annual report to the Senate to be presented as an agenda item of the Faculty Senate during either the **September**~~April~~ or **October**~~May~~ Faculty Senate meeting.”

## Motion:

“Whereas the Graduate College, as the University of Delaware's newest enterprises, shall make an annual report to the Faculty Senate for its first five provisional years, and

Whereas the Faculty Senate routinely handles a large number of business items during its April and May meetings,

Be it resolved that the Graduate College by-laws be revised to move the annual report to either the September or October meeting of the Faculty Senate.”



Success in graduate school is more than just reading, writing, and researching. For graduate student parents, it is crucial to find adequate support and resources for your family in order to thrive as a scholar. Whether you already have children or are thinking about starting a family while in graduate school, UCSB has resources, support, and benefits to help you thrive.



#### Family Housing

UCSB offers 2 family housing complexes for graduate students. Including 1- and 2-bedroom apartments located about a mile from the campus center. Priority is given to families with children, and it is recommended that interested students apply for the waitlist as soon as possible – even prior to admission – to ensure their spot in these popular residences.



#### Children's Center

Our campus supports 2 Children's Centers that provide childcare for student, staff, faculty, and community children. Trained tutors are also offered as well as grants and scholarships for families with financial need. The Children's Center is heavily utilized by our community, so we recommend getting on the waitlist early (e.g. as soon as you have a due date for a birth or a placement date for adoption).



#### Financial Support

Graduate student parents have access to several financial resources to offset childcare expenses. The Graduate Student Association offers quarterly childcare grants to all eligible graduate students, and Academic Student Employees and Graduate Student Researchers can take advantage of the childcare reimbursement program as well as a dependent care flexible spending account.



#### Social Support

In addition to the vibrant communities in Family Housing and the Children's Centers, graduate student parents can also find social support through online networks – such as our Graduate Student Parent Facebook group – and in the broader community – such as through Postsecondary Education for Parents (PEP) groups. These networks are a great way to meet other parents, share advice, and get connected to resources.

## Chair's Update: CHILDCARE

- Rena Hallam (HDFS), Deborah Drain (grad student HDFS), myself, and others are applying for a federal CCAMPIS grant to fund (some) childcare for graduate and undergraduate parents
- Survey will be sent out in late January to gather demographic data, grant application due June 1
- Dean Rossi has also agreed to fund a graduate student to build a resource page for graduate student parents, which we aim to have live by the end of spring.

Sample page: [UC Santa Barbara](#)



## Q&A on Counseling Services

(20 minutes)

Brad Wolgast, Senior  
Psychologist

# Graduate College Council

Dean's Remarks  
13 December 2021

# Updates

- COVID: UD is halting its implementation of the federal mandate while the challenges are sorted out in the courts. See Research Town Hall briefing.
- Graduate applications are down (15-20%) across the board YOY but...
- Strategic plan posted and in effect
- New interfaith space
- Congratulations to new Asst. VP for Student Life - Rae Chresfield
- First “fast track” creation of new graduate programs last month... Expect a program creation guide very soon.
- Outward facing graduate data! ([ire.udel.edu/dashboards](http://ire.udel.edu/dashboards)). The Graduate College will build on it.
- Student wellness issues involving faculty...
- Program directors’ meeting this Friday as always.

# Interdisciplinary programs (1 of 3)

The Graduate College hosts graduate programs that span multiple colleges.

- Data Science (MS): Biden, CANR, CAS, CEHD, CEOE, COE, LCBE
- Education and Social Policy (MS, PhD): Biden, CEHD
- Evaluation Science (MS): Biden, CEHD, CAS, CHS, COE, LCBE
- Microbiology (MS, PhD): CANR, COE
- Neuroscience (PhD + MS): CAS, CHS, COE
- Quantum Science and Engineering (MS, PhD): CAS, COE
- Water Science and Policy (MS, PhD): CANR, CEOE

We also have two certificates that add value to existing degrees.

- Computer science education
- Community engagement

# Interdisciplinary programs (2 of 3)

Value proposition...

1. **UD** can attract students interested in a specific interdisciplinary topic.
2. **Faculty** can work with stronger students who have these interests.
3. The Graduate College **organizes funding and support** amongst the colleges.
4. The Graduate College has **support staff dedicated to coordinating (admissions, tracking, etc) interdisciplinary programs.**
5. The Graduate College is dedicated to the **promotion of interdisciplinary programs.**

# Interdisciplinary programs (3 of 3)

## Operational issues.

- Interdisciplinary programs allow a group of faculty to work together independent of their home departments.
- Tuition flows to the host departments consistent with the budget model.
- Graduate College will organize some combined events for all interdisciplinary students.
- Programs have by-laws, like a mini-department.
- Some programs have seminar series in collaboration with host departments.
- Faculty and students enjoy the same access to opportunities for fellowship nominations, travel grants, etc. as other departments.
- Programs admit their own students with administrative support from the Graduate College.
- Contracts originate from host departments when funding is involved.

# Interdisciplinary Frontier Graduate and Postdoctoral Fellows program

Pilot year: AY 22-23

1. Contemporary problem of profound importance
2. Create a new collaboration that breaks through an institutional barrier
3. Teams of up to 3 graduate students, possibly a postdoc, working with up to 3 faculty from multiple colleges
4. Cross disciplinary training



# Motion to revise the by-laws

## Graduate College report to the Faculty Senate

Whereas the Graduate College, as the University of Delaware's newest enterprises, shall make an annual report to the Faculty Senate for its first five provisional years, and

Whereas the Faculty Senate routinely handles a large number of business items during its April and May meetings,

Be it resolved that the Graduate College by-laws be revised to move the annual report to either the September or October meeting of the Faculty Senate.

# What's (still) on my mind.

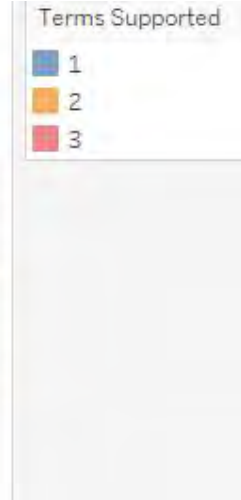
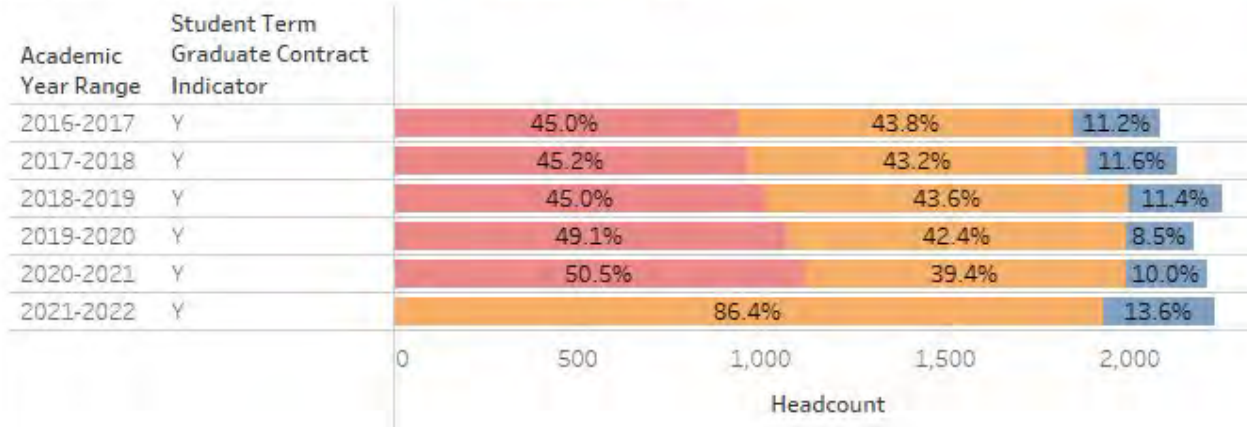
- Bringing best practices for *holistic achievement and success* to our graduate programs. [IDPs, CIMER training, creating a community of practice around excellent research mentorship]
- Moving to 12 months of support for our doctoral students. [next slide]
- Paving more intentional pathways into non-academic careers. [A2i program is accelerating, Grad LEAP uptake has been rapid.]
- *Childcare for graduate student parents*. [Early days...]



# Duration of graduate support

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depa

Grad Contract Terms per Academic Year



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# Questions?

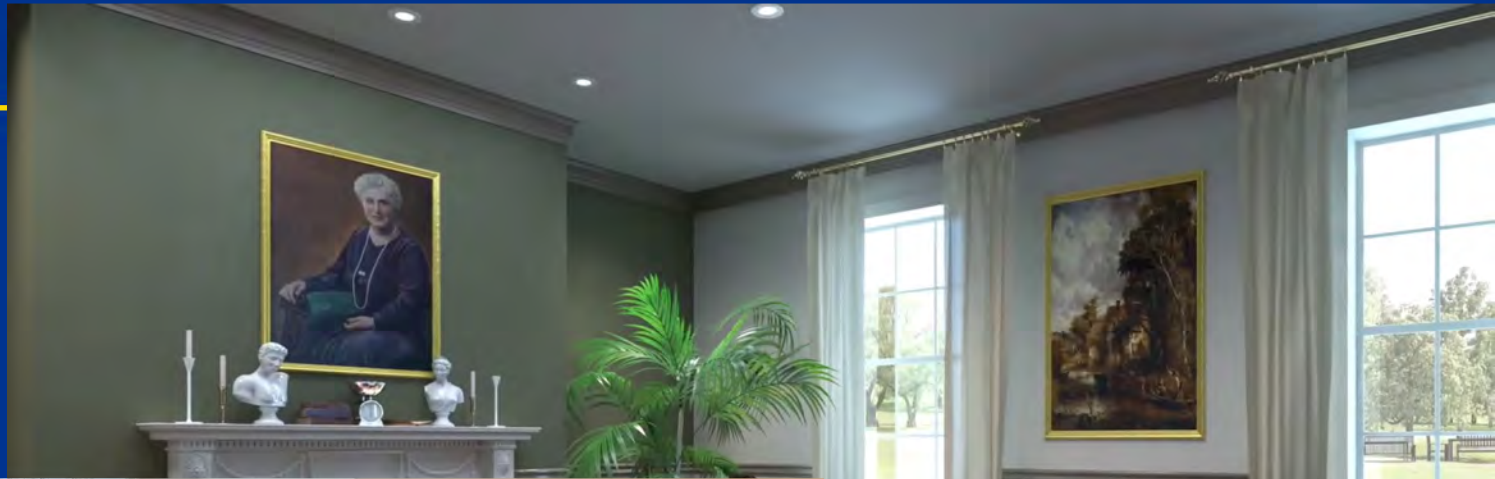


# Center for Counseling and Student Development



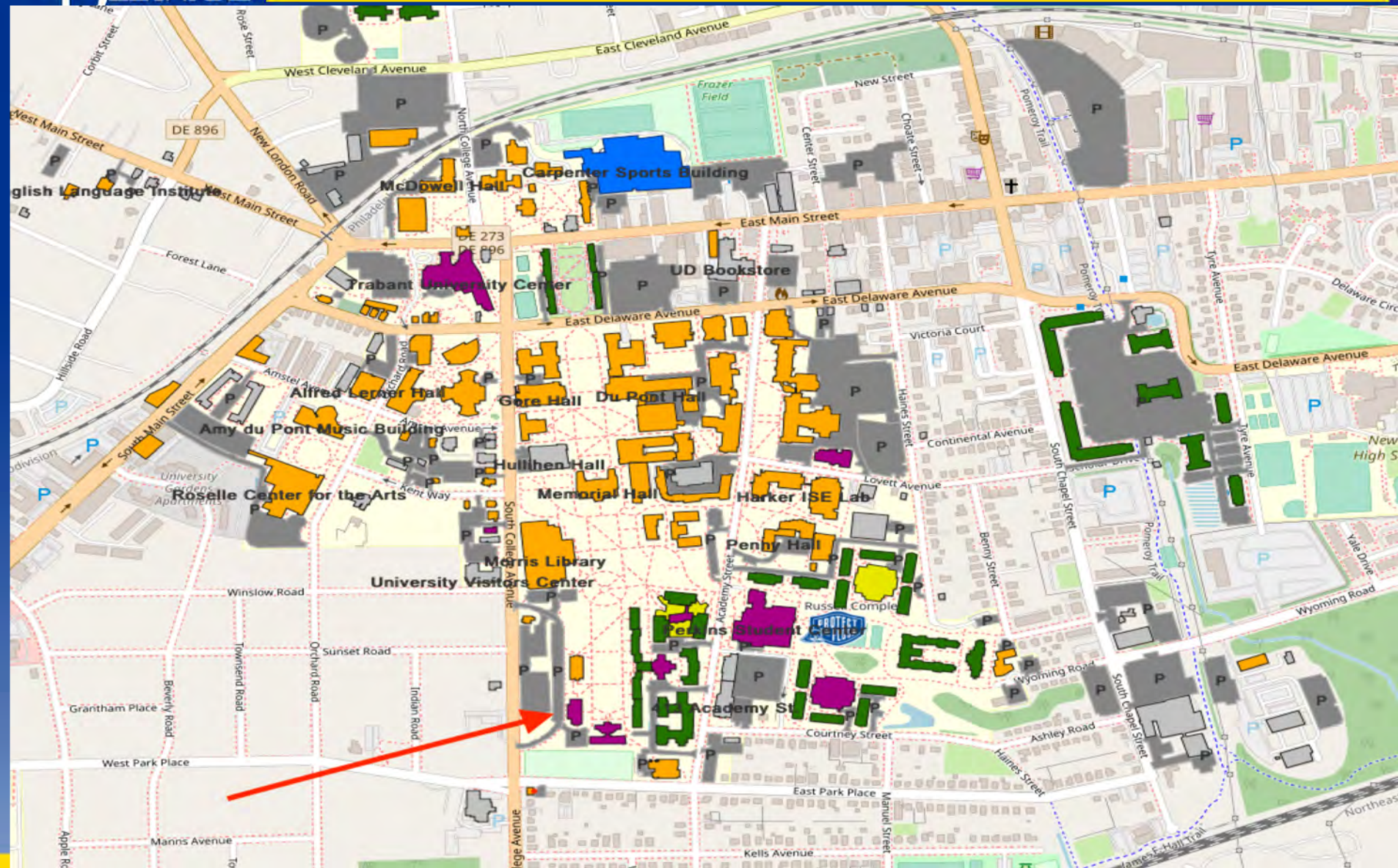
Brad Wolgast, PhD, CBSM

At the Wellbeing Center at Warner Hall– 280 The Green



*New spaces - warm,  
welcoming, private*

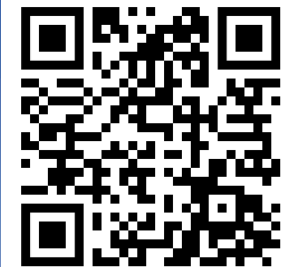
# Where is Warner Hall?



- Licensed Psychologists, Counselors, Advance Practice Nurse & Psychiatrists on staff
- Initial triage and referral (on and off-campus)
- Brief, structured coping skills groups
- Short-term individual and group therapy - some just for graduate students
- Daytime and after-hours emergency coverage
- Consultation with students
- Open 8-5, Mon- Fri, and later on Tuesdays/Wednesday to accommodate grad students

<https://sites.udel.edu/counseling>

UD Helpline: 831-1001





# Prepare To Manage your mental health at UD

- CCSD offers short-term counseling and emergency services to students at UD.
- For longer term mental health care, the Graduate Student Insurance offers coverage for Mental Health and CCSD can help you find good help.
- Make a plan if you have pre-existing mental health concerns
  - Do you have enough medication?
  - Have you found a therapist in Newark, DE? Call our Referral Coordinator!
  - Have you discussed an emergency plan with your provider?

A photograph of a piece of white paper with the text "are you covered?" printed on it. The paper is torn at the top and bottom edges, and is placed on a light brown, textured surface that looks like cardboard or a similar material. The text is in a simple, black, sans-serif font.

are you  
covered?

- In December, we hired Dr. Rae Chresfield as the first Assistant Vice President of Wellbeing – arriving early 2022.
- Currently searching for a new Director of CCSD – looking for a start date in late spring/early summer 2022.



<https://sites.udel.edu/counseling>  
UD Helpline: 831-1001



- In 2021 we hired 4 new clinical staff members to fill open positions
  - Drs. Wallesca Castro Rodriguez, Ogechi Nwordu, and Brittany Rivero, and Greg Cooper APRN
- In 2022, we hope to hire 3 more clinical staff members
- We are short staffed, and we finally have space to hire more staff than ever before

<https://sites.udel.edu/counseling>

UD Helpline: 831-1001





James Allen



Walest, Ph.D., CRSM, Senior Psychologist

Kerly Ozambela, Ph.D., Psychologist  
(he/him/his/él/de/é)  
Other Languages Spoken: Spanish

Brittany Rivero, Psy.D., Staff Psychologist  
(she/her/hers)

Isabella Schiro, Psy.D., Postdoctoral Fellow  
(she/her/hers)

Karen Tsukada, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Coordinator, Senior  
Psychologist  
(she/her/hers)

# CCSD Fall 2021



The typical way to enter our services is through calling our main number (302-831-2141) and scheduling a triage appointment.



Triage is the gateway to our group therapy, individual therapy (up to 8 sessions/ academic year), and psychiatry services (by referral).



Our workshops, drop-in hours for Students of Color, LGBTQ+, and DACA students, single sessions (quick problem solving), Let's Talk (quick consultation) and referral appointments don't require a triage. (Call to schedule: 831-2141.)



We are also offering emergency/crisis hours from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. each day (M-F). If you are not able to come during our emergency hours, the UD Helpline is also always available to help (831-1001).



We will offer virtual and in-person services this Fall and are following the UD policy requiring indoor masking. CCSD will also use the UD symptom checker prior to all in-person services.

from our website

## A Range of Services is Available

To get started with one of these services, [call 302-831-2141](tel:302-831-2141). The counseling website also contains a variety of resources that can be accessed at any time. Specific offerings for the upcoming semester can be found on our [Services](#) page. Most callers are offered a triage appointment to help determine next steps. Here are some questions to ask yourself about when to seek specific services:

### Triage

Want to meet with a clinician to determine next steps?

### Consultation

Have a question about your situation? Worried about a friend and need some answers or ideas?

### Group Screen

Heard about one of our Groups and want to learn more or find out how to get involved?

### Referral Coordination

Want help finding an off-campus mental health provider or specialist?

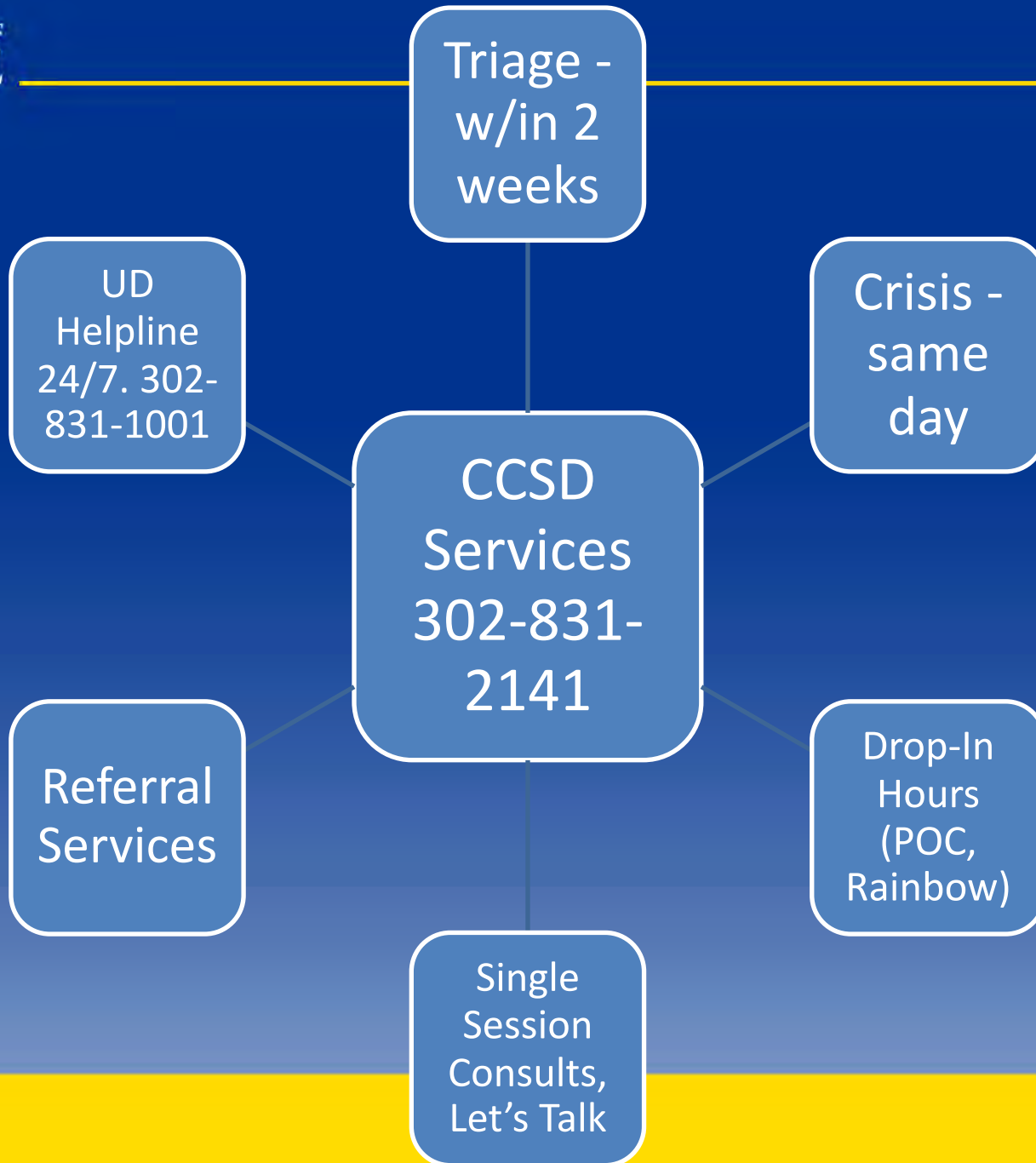
### Psychiatric Care

Are you already being seen for therapy at CCSD and interested in psychiatric treatment?

### Crisis

Are you finding it hard to calm yourself down or focus on anything?

[Our Treatment Model](#) [Services](#) [Myth vs. Fact](#) [Off-Campus Care may be the Best Fit](#) [Connect Now](#) [Referral Coordination](#)



# What if my referral to CCSD doesn't work?

- If you believe a student needs assistance for their mental health, consider reviewing our webpage for faculty:
- <https://sites.udel.edu/counseling/assisting-students-in-distress/>
- We have also created a pdf available on our website called “Say Something, Do Something.” available here:  
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19cE-BDtoa7FBazj8669WBNPAm-Vkqa4/view>
- In addition, the Student Behavior Consultation Team was created to provide students with additional support and behavioral intervention. You can access SBCT and report a concern here:  
<https://sites.udel.edu/deanofstudents/sbct/>



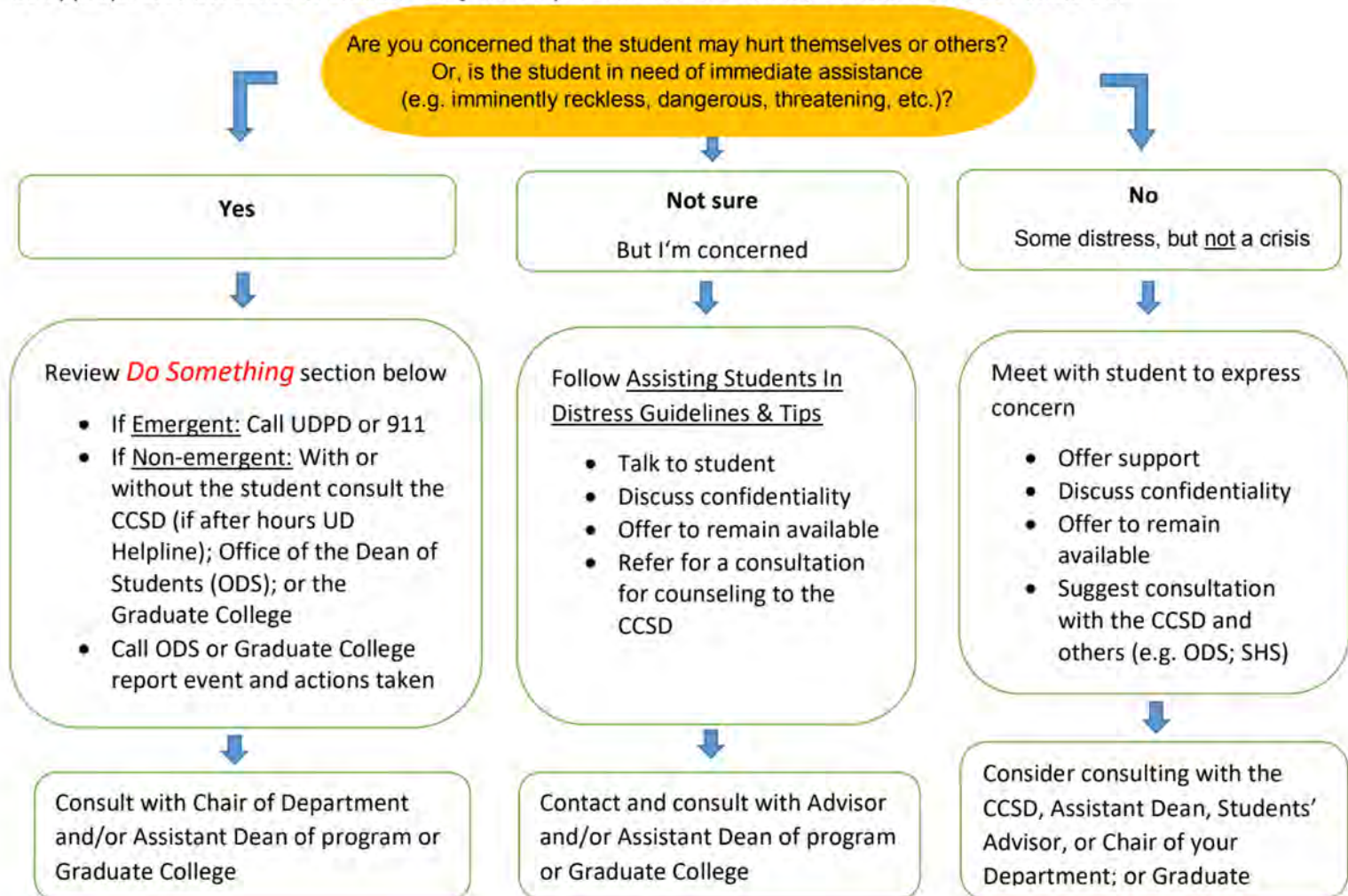
## Recognize the Signs

**Indicators of Distress:** *Be aware of the following indicators of distress. Look for patterns, frequencies, duration and severity - not just isolated symptoms. Take note of them and prepare to **say something**.*

Academic Indicators	Physical Indicators	Psychological Indicators	Safety Risk Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Sudden decline in quality of work and grades</li> <li>✓ Repeated absences from class or social gatherings/meetings</li> <li>✓ Disorganized performance</li> <li>✓ Multiple requests for extensions</li> <li>✓ Overly demanding of faculty and staff time</li> <li>✓ Bizarre content in writings or presentations</li> <li>✓ Student dependent on personal, rather than academic counseling during your office hours/meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Marked changes in physical appearance including deterioration in grooming, hygiene, or weight gain/loss</li> <li>✓ Excessive fatigue / sleep disturbance</li> <li>✓ Intoxication, hangovers, or smelling of alcohol</li> <li>✓ Disorientation or "out of it"</li> <li>✓ Garbled, tangential, disconnected, or slurred speech</li> <li>✓ Behavior is out of context or bizarre</li> <li>✓ Delusions and paranoia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Self-disclosure of personal distress such as a break up, family problems, financial difficulties, contemplating suicide, grief</li> <li>✓ Unusual / disorganized emotional response to events</li> <li>✓ Excessive tearfulness, panic reactions</li> <li>✓ Irritability or unusual apathy</li> <li>✓ Verbal abuse (e.g. taunting, badgering, intimidation)</li> <li>✓ Expression of concern about the student by peers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Unprovoked anger or hostility</li> <li>✓ Physical violence (shoving, grappling, assault, use of weapon, visible injuries)</li> <li>✓ Implying or making a direct threat to harm self or others</li> <li>✓ Academic assignments dominated by themes of hopelessness, rage, worthlessness, isolation, despair, acting out, suicidal ideation / violent behaviors – "a cry for help"</li> <li>✓ Communication threats via email, correspondence, texting, social media, or phone calls</li> </ul>

# Say Something, Do Something

**Say Something:** Consider these guidelines to help determine who to contact when faced with a distressed student. Because every situation is different use your discretion to adjust the order of steps as appropriate. Students in distress may not require immediate action, whereas those in crisis do:



## Do Something

**Tips & Resources:** Use the tips below to help you refer the student to the resources listed below.

**Be proactive:** List information on your syllabus regarding physical and mental health resources that they can access on campus. Talk to students early to communicate a culture of caring. Pay attention to signs of distress, academic underperformance, and set limits on disruptive behavior. Maintain an accessible list of on campus MH resources and emergency crisis contacts. Be prepared to tell students how to access the help they need. Be prepared to call or walk with them to get them the help they need.

**Safety First:** Your welfare and the welfare of UD students is the top priority when responding to violent behaviors. Follow UD and local protocols to get help to the individual's location. UDPD and the CCSD can help with this. If speaking to police directly, request an officer to respond who is trained in nonviolent de-escalation procedures for working with individual in MH distress. If the student of concern is a person of color, request the most culturally competent officer available.

**Follow Through:** Be prepared to connect a student to the help they need by together calling or walking over to the CCSD or other campus or local resource for a consultation. If necessary, arrangements can be made to transport the student to the CCSD or other local resources. The UDPD, ODS, UD Helpline, and/or the CCSD can help coordinate getting students to the most proximate resources available.

**Consultation & Documentation:** Always document your interactions with distressed students and consider consulting during and after any incident with the Office of the Dean of Students, the CCSD, the Program Chair and/or Assistant Deans of your College, all of whom are positioned to help students attain the ongoing help and accommodations needed.

**RESOURCES FOR CONSULTATION AND REPORTING:**

302-831-2141	<b>The Center for Counseling and Student Development (CCSD)</b>	302-831-1001	<b>24/7 UD Helpline</b>
302-831-8939	<b>Office of the Dean of Students (ODS)</b>	302-831-2222	<b>UD Police Department</b>
800-273-8255	<b>National Suicide Prevention Lifeline</b>	911	<b>Emergency Response</b>
302-831-8916	<b>Assoc. VP for Grad &amp; Prof. Ed. and Assoc. Dean of the Graduate College</b>		

\*\*Per your department and college's protocols. Contact the Program Chair, Academic Advisor, and/or Senior Assistant dean of your college for consultation and their follow up where relevant.

Adapted from: UCEAP Education

# Questions About CCSD?

