October 8, 2015

**Timely Warning and Safety Notice**

This Community Advisory message is part of the University of Rhode Island’s commitment to provide crime awareness and safety information to community members.

The Sexual Assault Response Team has noted an increase of sexual misconduct incidents that have been reported at events and parties, particularly in the surrounding communities.

The University of Rhode Island would like to remind community members of the following:

- Sexual misconduct is non-consensual activity, ranging from unwanted touching to forced intercourse which can include sexual contact with someone who is impaired or incapacitated by alcohol or drugs.
- Always seek verbal, sober, and clear consent. Immediately stop sexual advances if the other person indicates no interest or if they say “no.” Consent to one sexual act does not imply consent to another. The absence of “no” does not mean “yes.” Pressuring or coercing someone into engaging in sexual activity is sexual misconduct.
- If a friend starts to exhibit symptoms of dizziness and/or nausea, memory loss, breathing difficulties or is acting disproportionately intoxicated, seek medical help immediately. These could be signs of alcohol poisoning or having been dosed with a date rape drug. The University has a medical amnesty policy that protects students who call for help from being charged with violating the University Code of Conduct.
● Be an active bystander. If you witness a situation that appears unsafe or makes you uncomfortable, directly intervene if it’s safe to do so. Distract, if needed, to get the potential victim to safety or delegate to other people including calling the police for assistance.

If you have been the victim of sexual misconduct, you are not alone.

Our first priority is your safety and well-being. Confidential medical care can be sought at any local emergency room or at URI Health Services, 401.874.2246. In addition confidential counseling services are available at the URI Counseling Center, 401.874.2288. If you are in a situation where you are unsure or scared, call URI Police, 401.874.2121 or Local Police immediately (Dial 911). To give ANONYMOUS information to the URI Police please call the TIPS line at 874-8477(874-TIPS).

If you or someone you know has been impacted by any form of abuse or violence, victim-centered support is available by contacting: URI's Violence Prevention and Advocacy Services. Contact: Racine Amos, 401.874.9131.

URI will also vigorously address all misconduct including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking when committed by a URI student or employee and retaliation for reporting is strictly prohibited. Please contact Mary Jo Gonzales, Dean of Students at 401.874.2101 or Roxanne Gomes, Title IX Coordinator at 401.874.2442 if you would like to file a complaint.