

Dear Campus Community Member:

I am reaching out to share information regarding a public safety incident that occurred around 4 a.m. this morning in the West College parking lot off Seward Place. One of our students was robbed by three individuals who then drove away from campus following the incident.

Fortunately, our student was not hurt, and it does not appear that the assailants were armed. Campus Safety and Schenectady Police were on the scene quickly.

Still, nothing is more important than the safety of our community members and campus guests, and we are taking steps to minimize the risk of similar incidents in the future.

Schenectady Police, working with Campus Safety, are actively investigating the matter. Both Campus Safety and the Schenectady Police will increase patrols on and around the campus starting today, with an emphasis on having a heightened presence during the evening and overnight hours. And although this incident occurred in a well-lighted area with working surveillance cameras, we are, as a precaution, double-checking lighting and cameras around campus to ensure they are all operational.

It also is especially important that all members of our community exercise caution when on campus, especially as the weather improves and we all spend more time outside.

Safety tips

There are steps we can all take to help minimize the risk of a crime occurring.

- Be alert to your surroundings as you walk around the campus and in the Schenectady community.
- Be mindful of <u>personal safety practices</u> and use the "buddy system" when going out and avoid walking alone at night.
- Security escorts are available at any time on campus by calling Campus Safety at (518) 388-6911 or extension 6911.
- Additionally, there are numerous "blue light" emergency phones on campus that allow for direct connection to Campus Safety.
- If you see suspicious behavior, do not confront an individual. Please contact Campus Safety. It is useful to put this number on the speed dial in your cell phone. You can also dial 9-1-1 at any time for an emergency.

We appreciate your help as we work together to keep the campus safe.

Best.

Tom Constantine, Director of Campus Safety