

**University of Virginia**  
**Board of Visitors Statement on Sexual Assault**

RESOLVED, on behalf of all who comprise the University of Virginia community, the Board of Visitors adopts the following statement:

We affirm that our first priority, of all of our responsibilities, is to ensure the safety of all in our community, especially the students entrusted to our care;

We condemn with all our being the alleged violations in our community of the most basic rights of any civil society;

We feel, as do all, the conflicting emotions, particularly anger, generated by the alleged conduct, but we will not allow the innocent to be victimized in the absence of complete facts;

We will pursue with all due urgency the complete truth relating to those and other possible violations of our most basic rights;

We will repair on a sustainable basis those aspects of our culture that have enabled the abhorrent conduct we all condemn;

We will implement all measures to address these violations and instill a culture of reporting with an understanding that our community is committed to the fundamental principles of zero tolerance for sexual assault and the right to due process;

We will ensure that the support of the community is provided to those whose rights were violated and that the rule of law is applied to those who violated those rights;

We know the moral imperative of our work is unassailable. We commit ourselves to illuminating and nourishing the extraordinary and enduring strengths of the University even as we honestly confront and work to change uncomfortable truths that threaten to erode an environment of safety and trust. We act for our own students. We also act so that the University may serve as an example for, and a thought leader with, other institutions of higher learning facing similar and intolerable impediments to a culture of humane and civilized respect, open-mindedness, and learning. We undertake to help the University evolve into a place where each person can without fear or mistrust achieve his or her potential, academically and personally;

We will not permit any tradition to be preserved if it jeopardizes a student's safety;

We will not end our work until we restore the trust in this great institution.

November 25, 2014