



CONTACT INFORMATION

Paula Gilbeck

715-836-4742

gilbecpj@uwec.edu

Feb. 8, 2021

Statement from Teresa O'Halloran, Interim Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, UW-Eau Claire:

Several reports were filed with UW-Eau Claire's Bias Incident Reporting Team (BIRT) this past weekend regarding racist social media posts by a student. Our BIRT processes provide that we respond to all reports filed. According to those processes, the BIRT met first thing this morning to discuss the incident.

After discussion amongst team members about appropriate campus response, members of the BIRT are now reaching out to the individuals who made the reports and to the student who made the posts, as well as offering support to students, faculty, and staff impacted by the posts.

Due to FERPA laws UW-Eau Claire is not able to release any further information on this matter.

Hateful speech is antithetical to our mission as a university and as a community and poses a threat to our ability to provide a safe living, learning and working environment for our students and employees. The BIRT provides an outlet to report, document and address specific incidents and to better understand the challenges presented by the hate and bias that negatively affect our campus climate. We are an educational institution and are working together to create a more inclusive learning community.



--END--