

ELMIRA COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 9, 2024

Dear EC Community,

Welcome back to campus and the beginning of Term II! I hope the holiday break provided an opportunity to spend time with friends and loved ones, and to rest and recharge

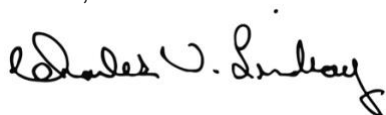
As the College community looks to the new year, it is important that the entire campus community remain committed to providing an environment where students, faculty, and staff can participate in their right to free expression, in an environment that is free from hate, bigotry, and harassment.

The international rise in threatening speech and hate crimes is alarming and has no place at EC. This is a campus dedicated to the expansion of learning and understanding. Members of the EC community come from all over the world and the College has long-placed special emphasis on promoting global awareness and discussion amongst people from different backgrounds and cultures. Our campus community has benefited greatly from the diverse perspectives and experiences of its students, faculty, and staff.

While the EC campus has not experienced a rise in hate speech, it takes effort from each campus community member to ensure it remains that way. This includes sharing information and opinions openly while also maintaining a healthy respect for information you may not agree with as well as the thoughts and opinions of others. What this does not include is threatening speech or hate crimes.

To provide further clarity, I have charged a special Task Force composed of faculty, staff, and students with the development of a policy that will outline the College's stance on threatening speech and hate crimes, and the potential consequences for such actions by any member of the campus community.

Yours,



Charles W. Lindsay, PhD
President