



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

CORNELIUS KERWIN
PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM

October 25, 2008

TO: Campus Community
FROM: Neil Kerwin, President
SUBJECT: Saturday Events on Campus—October 25

As most everyone knows, in the midst of the Family and Alumni Weekend activities on Saturday, October 25, a suspicious package was found in the Sports Center Garage, and AU Public Safety was alerted. Our officers contacted D.C. Metro Police for assistance, and they believed the situation to be of sufficient suspicion that their Explosive Ordinance Team was brought in to conduct an examination.

Buildings on campus were evacuated, including the Sports Center Garage, Bender Arena, Mary Graydon Center, and the bookstore in Butler Pavilion and entry into those areas was prohibited per orders of Metro Police. Shuttle buses were re-routed and dining services were affected as well.

The Kennedy Political Union and Alumni Programs event scheduled for Saturday night, “They’ll Take Your Questions Now: Views from Behind the Podium,” featuring three former presidential press secretaries and moderated by AU alumnus David Gregory, was cancelled.

All remaining Alumni and Family Weekend events scheduled for Sunday, October 26 will take place as planned.

I want to thank the rapid response by Metro police, fire and safety officials, and thank AU Public Safety and all university personnel who assisted. I sincerely regret the inconvenience caused by these events, which also occurred in a driving rain, and appreciate the patience and understanding of all alumni, parents, and students.

As always, the safety of our campus community is of utmost importance.

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