



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

CORNELIUS KERWIN  
PRESIDENT

## MEMORANDUM

February 15, 2008

TO: Campus Community  
FROM: Neil Kerwin, President  
SUBJECT: Recent Tragedies on College Campuses

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This past week, another random shooting took place on a college campus—at Northern Illinois University, where six died and at least 16 or more were wounded. The previous week, another shooting on a college campus—at Louisiana Technical College at Baton Rouge, claimed three lives.

On the AU campus, a vigil will be held from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, February 18 and Tuesday, February 19 in the Kay Spiritual Life Center to provide an opportunity for our campus community to gather, reflect, and meditate. Chaplains will be on hand for anyone seeking conversation or counseling; in addition, their phone number is 202-885-3321. The Office of Campus Life offers counseling and support services for students who wish to talk about their feelings or concerns; the Counseling Center's number is 202-885-3500. Faculty and staff may access counseling and support services by contacting the Faculty and Staff Assistance Program, at 202-885-2593.

These events remind us yet again, that as a campus community we share the responsibilities to help and protect one another. The university has an extensive program for safety and communication during a crisis, with ongoing enhancements being made to our own emergency preparedness capabilities. To review our safety protocols, click on the “Emergency Preparedness” link below the AU logo on the [AU Web site](#).

On campus, if any event or activity seems unusual or suspicious, please contact Public Safety at 202-885-3636.

Our thoughts are with the families and classmates of the victims and the higher education communities forced to deal with these most recent tragedies.

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