

Behavior Inconsistent With Our Values

From President Daniel G. Lugo <President@trincoll.edu>

Date Fri 11/7/2025 9:32 PM

To Rojas, Jason < Jason.Rojas@trincoll.edu>

To the Trinity College Community,

This evening, I write with a profound sense of responsibility for our shared values as a learning community. Recent actions on our campus have challenged the principles that unite us and the environment we strive to maintain for all.

Earlier today, anonymous postings bearing the Students and Faculty for Justice in Palestine hashtag appeared throughout the day in classrooms and other academic spaces across campus. These messages, part of a coordinated effort, were overtly political in nature. While we recognize that freedom of expression is a cornerstone of our academic mission, the manner and location of these postings conflict with the standards that safeguard respectful and open inquiry.

At Trinity, every student, faculty member, and staff colleague deserves to teach, learn, and work in spaces free from intimidation, harassment, or disruption. Our classrooms are sacred to our academic purpose—places where ideas flourish through dialogue, not through unilateral acts that compromise trust. Our <u>Student Handbook</u> and employment policies clearly prohibit political activism within academic settings, precisely to preserve this integrity.

I have heard from members of our community, students, and faculty alike, who felt unsettled by these postings and their impact on the learning environment. I, too, witnessed these messages firsthand in Seabury Hall, where I was invited to participate in a rehearsal for a student-led theatrical production late this afternoon. These experiences remind us that mutual respect is not optional; it is essential to the openness and inclusivity that define Trinity College.

We cannot tolerate harassment that violates and undermines the community we are committed to building together. Campus Safety and Student Life are actively investigating this matter. If you have information, please contact Campus Safety at 860-297-2222.

Let me be clear: freedom of expression and academic inquiry are fundamental to who we are. Yet these freedoms carry responsibility. Actions that introduce politically charged messaging into academic spaces — without sanction or dialogue — erode the trust and integrity that sustain our mission. In this moment, let us recommit ourselves to engagement that honors both our principles and our shared humanity.

Thank you for your attention and for your steadfast dedication to the values that make Trinity College a place of learning, respect, and belonging.

Sincerely,

Dan

11/8/25, 1:19 PM

Daniel G. Lugo President, Trinity College