

From: VC-COMMUNICATIONS A.C. <vc.communications@durham.ac.uk>

Sent: 06 December 2021 17:47

Subject: South College

Dear Students,

You may be aware of issues arising from a dinner at South College on Friday 3 December, which have been reported in the media and on social media.

The entirety of the event and some surrounding circumstances have caused significant upset for our students and staff, and other members of our University community.

I want to assure you that the University categorically does not agree with views expressed by the external speaker at this occasion. Also, I am most concerned, as are my UEC (University Executive Committee) colleagues, at reports that some behaviours exhibited at the occasion may have fallen short of those that we expect.

We are looking into the circumstances surrounding the events on Friday as a matter of urgency and have taken immediate steps to launch an investigation which will follow our established processes. We will report more on this soonest.

Our position statement on the matter, which is published on our website and on social media, can be found here: <https://www.durham.ac.uk/about-us/notices/statement-on-south-college-dinner/> This web page will be used to provide relevant information and to update our community as soon as we are in a position to do so.

Further information about what support is available to our students is available here: <https://www.durham.ac.uk/colleges-and-student-experience/student-support-and-wellbeing/> Please do seek support if you have been affected in any way by this matter.

Best wishes,

Professor Antony Long

Acting Vice-Chancellor

Executive Office The Palatine Centre Stockton Road Durham DH1 3LE United Kingdom