

Dear LSC Community:

So many wonderful things are happening at LSC. New opportunities, new plans for enhanced programs, and great enjoyment of our new spaces with plans to continue to improve our campus as we are able. Lots of activity in the main corridor and many new activities planned by our student life and Center for Equity and Diversity. This is sweet music as we recover from the challenges we still face with pandemic number one: COVID.

But these days the music also has a few sour notes. I refer to pandemic number two, which I discussed way back in June of 2020 (see [Recent Messages June 2, 2020](#)). Back then, we were confronted with a rising surge of systemic racism and the hate-filled and deadly fallout that ensued. Since then we have moved ahead with our Equity 2030 work, and have made some small strides in the battle against racism on our campus, knowing we have much much more work to do.

Today, we are seeing some intimidation tactics, this time addressed primarily toward the LGBTQAI+ community. For example, one of the latest has been damaging or removing the rainbow flag from our atrium.

Our Code of Conduct for students reads in part:

“As an institution dedicated to teaching and learning, Lake Superior College has a vested interest in maintaining an environment in which students are free to pursue their academic interests and responsibilities. Conduct that unreasonably restricts such freedom and interferes with the College mission of promoting student learning is subject to regulation and/or sanction by the College. The creation of such an environment is premised on the assumption that students have both rights and responsibilities. Therefore, a major function of the College is to guarantee student rights, yet to demand student responsibility.”

Folks, freedom of speech is very much respected on our campus. But freedom to damage LSC property or intimidate targeted groups is unacceptable. It is everyone’s responsibility to be kind to each other and respect differences, even if you do not accept differences.

TOGETHER We can make LSC truly welcoming and inclusive for all, regardless of sex, race, age, ability/disability, color, creed, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, or status with regard to public assistance.



Patricia L. Rogers, Ph.D.

President

Lake Superior College

Pronouns: She, Her, Hers -- [More about pronouns](#)