

February 15, 2008

Most of you are aware of the tragic shooting that took place yesterday on the campus of Northern Illinois University. As of 8 a.m. this morning there were seven confirmed dead in the attack, including the gunman. Several other students were injured, some of them seriously.

Sadly, this event reminds us yet again that as much as we try to make the place where we live, teach, study and work as safe as possible, a lone individual can still inflict terrible pain upon a campus and the lives of students, faculty and staff.

The physical safety of our people is our highest concern. On our campus there are resources available to faculty, staff and students to assist them with feelings of anxiety and distress. I would encourage students needing assistance to contact the Birkam Health Center and our Counseling Office. After hours they may be reached through our campus police.

We extend our condolences to President Peters, the entire Northern Illinois University community, and especially those students who are struggling with their injuries. At the same time we are offering our help, assistance, and support to them.

Please keep those who have been fatally shot, as well as those who will be recovering both physically and emotionally, in your thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

David L. Eisler
President