



OHIO NORTHERN UNIVERSITY

August 28, 2008

Dear ONU Students, Families of our students, Faculty and Staff,

Welcome back to campus! We are looking forward to the 2008-09 academic year – one that is filled with the promise of new and exciting ventures both in and out of the classroom. I ask that as we begin another school year that you reflect on this special community we have at ONU.

Well before the incident at Virginia Tech, Ohio Northern completed work on emergency preparedness plans that make provisions for a wide variety of possible emergencies. I want to remind you of where you can review the provisions for these conditions and how you can prepare as well.

In addition to our on-campus security, we have excellent relations with our local police departments. We have an on-site siren to notify us of hazardous weather conditions and the ONU website (www.onu.edu) carries a list of instructions for reference in case of any number of crises or emergency conditions.

Last year we had a record sign up for Emergency Text Messaging and hope to build this number to 100% of those of our campus population with cell phones. To subscribe, students, faculty and staff should go to the Luminus home page and follow the instructions to receive emergency messages.

Residence Life staff continue to hold periodic fire drills and each residence has a trained safety director to manage emergencies. The University's web site will display emergency messages as needed and similar announcements are always broadcast on the radio station WONB-FM (94.9). Emergency generators back up those providers.

We think of ourselves as a family here at ONU – a family that takes care of each other. I ask again that you familiarize yourself with these emergency plans and to instruct others who don't know. Be forthcoming with information that you think might jeopardize the health and well being of others. Take care of yourselves and those around you. Make good choices and help other to do the same. Be responsible and take responsibility. Be aware of your surroundings and considerate of safe practices to help us keep our campus community secure. If you have questions or need more information, contact Ms. Lee Ann Hall (419) 772-2501 or email her at l-hall@onu.edu.

I wish you all a safe, happy and productive year.

Kendall L. Baker