

CEOD Statement on Hate Crime and Vandalism

In light of recent campus events concerning the hate crime committed against the student NAACP office in Squires Student Center and the defacement of a partition in McBryde Hall, the Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity (CEOD) calls on the entire Virginia Tech community to heed the potential warning signs of these two incidents and pay closer attention to the diversity challenges that are faced at Virginia Tech.

We are concerned about the message sent by these two incidents. We cannot allow these two incidents to sabotage the progress that has been made. As a university community, we must challenge ourselves and each other to stand up against this and other forms of hate speech, bigotry, and discrimination.

We must work together to ensure that such actions do not repeat themselves within the university community. In addition to following up these incidents, we strongly urge the university administration to address more aggressively the larger climate issues these incidents illustrate.