

## **President Fritz's Remarks Regarding the Recent Tragedy in New Zealand**

March 18, 2019

Dear Members of the College Community,

I write to you today to condemn the hatred that motivated the mass shooting and human tragedy unfolding in New Zealand. On behalf of the CSI community, I extend our heartfelt sympathies to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of this unspeakable event. I also want to reassure the Muslim community at CSI and on Staten Island that the College of Staten Island does not tolerate hate speech.

The College of Staten Island has always welcomed students and scholars from every religion, race, sexual orientation, and national origin to pursue their educational interests. We believe an educational institution should be a place where one can engage in difficult conversations through respectful discourse. We categorically reject anyone seeking to promote hatred and bigotry – it has no place on our campus.

Please know that confidential counseling services are available for members of our community who need additional support during this time.

- Students may contact the CSI Counseling Center: 718-982-2391 or walk-in at your convenience during business hours – Building 1A-109. You can come in alone, with a friend, or in a group – just give them a call. More information is available at [www.csi.cuny.edu/students/counseling-center](http://www.csi.cuny.edu/students/counseling-center).
- Employees may contact the Deer Oaks Employee Assistance Program to speak with a licensed mental health counselor: 1-855-492-3633 (24-hours/day) or email: [eap@deeroaks.com](mailto:eap@deeroaks.com). For more information visit: [www.deeroakseap.com](http://www.deeroakseap.com) (member username and password is CSI).

Sincerely,

William J. Fritz  
President