Dear Wake Forest Off-Campus Student:

I hope you have had a restful and joyous holiday break. As you are approaching your return to the campus community in the coming days and weeks, I wanted to alert you to some issues that have occurred while you were away.

Our office has been informed by the Winston-Salem and University police departments that numerous houses rented by Wake Forest students, and some owned by the University, in the neighborhoods adjacent to the University have experienced break-ins during the winter break holiday. We wanted to make you aware of these incidents in which many valuable items, including electronics and automobiles, have been taken. Fortunately, the WSPD has made several arrests and more arrest warrants are pending.

The break-ins remain under investigation by the Winston-Salem Police Department. Meanwhile, the University Police Department has assisted Winston-Salem investigators in contacting students whose houses have been broken into. In addition, Wake Forest Police officers are assisting the Winston-Salem Police Department in patrolling the neighborhoods next to campus.

We want to advise you to continue to take safety precautions as you return to your residences. Upon your return, please ensure that your doors and windows are still secure and your personal property is all as you left it before the break. If anything seems unusual or out of place, please contact the WSPD (911 or 773-7700) or WFU PD (758-5591) immediately.

A big deterrent to would-be criminals is an occupied property. Make sure your home appears occupied at all times, keep doors and windows locked even while you are at home, and do not place valuable items in plain view from the exterior of your property.

If you need anything upon your return, please do not hesitate to contact Residence Life and Housing, University Police or the Winston-Salem Police Department.

Safe travels and happy New Year!

Donna P. McGalliard, EdD
Dean, Residence Life and Housing
Wake Forest University
336.758.5185 (work)
336.758.4686 (fax)