October 15, 2018

Dear W&M Parent,

One of the hallmarks of the William & Mary student experience is the opportunity to be involved in campus life. In the Division of Student Affairs, we have a commitment to create an engaged learning environment where community is strengthened and individuals flourish. For your son or daughter, being involved and engaged in campus life can create some of the most meaningful experiences - contributing to that special sense of community at William & Mary.

October can be an active month for membership transitions for individuals who are joining new groups. Unfortunately, for some who pursue group involvement, hazing is encountered as a hidden and serious problem, one that undermines the positive value of getting involved in a club or group.

We view parents as essential partners with us in these ongoing efforts, and we encourage you also to start a conversation with your student about activities associated with positive membership experiences. Our goal is to empower all in our community to recognize hazing in its various forms, to know what to do when they see hazing activity or experience it directly, and to feel confident in taking action. Parents should be among the informed members of our community who know how to report if they have questions or concerns about hazing behavior.

In all we do, William & Mary strives to create a community where students flourish and their campus experiences help them to forge lifelong relationships with one another and with their alma mater. As parents, we hope that you will please help us in our on-going effort to promote “My Tribe, My Responsibility: A Home Without Hazing.”

Virginia M. Ambler
Vice President for Student Affairs