

President Campo's contract extended

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The AU Board of Trustees announced that Dr. Carlos Campo's contract will be extended for three years. The 30th president of Ashland University will now be seen walking around campus engaging with students until May 31, 2021.

"Generally it's a matter of the board feeling that things are going well," Campo said. "Technically I was in the last year of my current contract, so it's not unusual that when you are nearing the end of a contract, instead of waiting until the last minute to have some conversations, the board and I over the last four to five months have been talking about what the future looks like and how long Karen and I plan on staying. We are here through May of 2021 and it's part of a negotiated discussion and I think all of us are feeling like we are on the same page and we are moving forward in the right direction"

Dr. Campo was selected to be the 30th president in March of 2015. Since his first day in office, on June 1, 2015, Dr. Campo has made many changes to the university. Among those changes is a strategic plan that is starting to be implemented.

That plan comes with a new mission and vision statement for the university as a whole. Another thing is the community engagement focus that Dr. Campo says is the critically important part of that plan.

"I feel that among the major accomplishments, it's never just me, we are all apart of a team and we have been able to engage the community," Campo said. "We feel better than before, in the last number of years we have seen the community welcome us in new ways and we are serving the community

in more ways than we have before. We started opening our doors literally and figuratively to the community, so that's been a big part of it."

Campo also gives credit to the university's ability to raise money saying that in his first three years the number of million dollar gifts has been incredible.

Since Campo came to office, the university has had its highest enrollment rate in history as well as its highest retention rates ever recorded; two things Campo and the board are very proud of being able to accomplish.

Some hot topic issues are also being applied currently to campus, such as the adoption and signing of the Chicago Principles of Free Expression. Dr. Campo believes the student affirmation on it has helped the communication around campus become better than ever.

"There is a spirit on campus, a spirit of being positive and seeing a direction and transparency in openness," Campo said. "We feel we have gotten better communication than ever before and we are on the same page. No campus is without its conflict and I really don't sense that here at Ashland now, it feels like we are all sensing that we are here for the right reasons and that we are moving forward."

With his contract extension, Dr. Campo is still looking to make more improvements on the campus of Ashland. Whether those improvements be made in dorm halls or in athletics, he is very happy about the overall look of the campus and what is has to offer.

"We do believe that we have a lot of work to do on the infrastructure on campus. This is an older campus it's just the reality of the fact," Campo said. "We have been talking about refurbishing or building new dorms which we think is an important thing. Overall we think



AU PRESS RELEASE
President Campo's contract has been extended through May, 31, 2021.

the campus looks great but it could look better."

Campo also said that one thing the campus is lacking is an indoor athletic facility that other campuses have to offer when it comes to athletics that AU does not. He said that the Rec Center is great, but it would be better if athletes and students had the opportunity to go to a space that has indoor tennis courts or an indoor football or soccer field.

While Dr. Campo believes the campus itself could use an updated look, he also has plans to benefit those who are not typical undergrads. Dr. Campo has plans for expanding the online and graduate programs.

"We think we can do more with program expansions particularly online and with graduate degrees,we do feel like our undergraduate program is very very strong," Campo said. "Students

are coming here and getting a great education, getting into grad school or med school and into the workforce. We do think with our graduate degrees we can expand even further and as we look to the future it's something we want to get done."

Dr. Campo and his wife, Karen Campo, are very grateful for the opportunities AU has given them and are looking forward to all the changes to come. They appreciate the community and their ability to open their arms to them.

"We are grateful for how welcoming everyone has been," Dr. Campo said. "We have been successful because of the people around us, it's not us, it's about how the student body as been so supportive and kind and the community has been unbelievable because they want the school to thrive and do really well. Just one message from me would be thank you!"

Strangers in the suites

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Recently there have been rumors of a group of five to six men entering sorority suites as well as the Miller Apartments. The concern on campus has continued to spread as more people have heard these stories.

Olivia Bosse, a member of Theta Phi Alpha, sits at a table in the suite describing her one year as a member of the sorority as a happy time filled with a support group of friends and sisters. A place that she could call her home away from home, until she had a frightening experience she still cannot explain fully.

"I just assumed it was guys from another fraternity dropping off something. I was about to walk into the hallway when I saw one of them with their hood up. I felt that was rather odd. Both of them were in all black," Bosse said.

The strangers stayed in the hallway. Bosse did not know what to expect and hid in the suite until the pair left a couple minutes later in the opposite direction from which they came.

"I heard them opening doors and some keys jingling. They were just standing there, talking about our old composite photos and mentioning a few of our sister's names."

The two men carried on like that while but she could not hear everything being said. After they left, Bosse left as well feeling insecure in what is usually a safe haven.

"It made me feel like it wasn't a safe place anymore and I've always considered the suite to be a place where I could come to relax and be around people and be safe and be comfortable. Now I'm just on edge," Bosse said.

Bosse did not report this incident to her RA or to safety services.

She felt this was a mistake and enforced the importance of reporting suspicious activities.

"If you see anything make sure

count of any strangers in the suites.

"A lot of what I know is from rumors and what other people are saying. I know it was brought up that there were masked men in Clark walking around possibly in the suites. So, it's all been rumors that we've heard I think," Walker said.

Due to speculation of these rumors Alpha Phi has had no issues and has not reported anything to residence life or safety services.

not," Walker said.

There have also been incidents that were not reported to Residence life or Safety Services, but remain concerning to the student population that is aware of them.

Alpha Delta Pi had a similar experience to Bosse's.

They reported it to their RA and Safety services.

ADPi did not comment on their experience.



KYLIE CHURCH
The hallway in the Theta Phi Alpha suite where Olivia Bosse saw suspicious activity.

Kim Lammers has been at Ashland the last four years as the Director of Residence Life and Commuter Services. Lammers was able to confirm the report filed by the sorority.

"We had a report of suspicious men in a sorority suite," Lammers said. "We found out they were residential students who were just walking around the building which they have access to until 11 p.m. They were there before 11 p.m. so they did not break any policy."

Lammers also stated the sorority presidents met with the assistant director of student life and he relayed the concern to her.

"If you are actually someone who sees jigging door handles that person is being suspicious, report it," Lammers said.

Residence Life is concerned with the safety of the students and wants everyone to feel comfortable in their dorms by knowing how to optimize safety.

Lammers said although it may not be polite, it is important to not hold the door open for a stranger.

"Sometimes we have people hold

However, these rumors spread worry and fear throughout the campus community according to Walker.

"It's definitely worrisome that someone could get in the dorm unless it was a student, obviously. A lot of people are confused because the situation hasn't been addressed by the university. So, people aren't sure if they should be worried or

AU athlete sparks snapchat controversy

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On Oct. 23, a Snapchat video sent by AU student and baseball player, Logan Stoldt, went viral after is was screencapped and shared on Twitter.

Stoldt speaks derogatorily and profanely in the video, using race as a means to belittle the African American man who the video was intended for.

He described sending the video to a person who does not attend Ashland University and explained that it was his anger that incited the message.

"The whole reason behind the reason why I sent it was because he was sending me Snapchats of him being with my, well she was, my girlfriend at the time," Stoldt said. "And out of all anger, I just responded that."

Stoldt and Ashland University have both commented on recording.

"I wanted to say I'm very sorry for what I've said. I didn't mean to disrespect anyone. That's not what I intended it for," Stoldt said. "Just out of all anger that's what I did. I'm sorry for what I said."

Stoldt also said that he did not intend for his words in the video to shed a bad light on AU.

Ashland University released an official statement regarding Stoldt's video on the morning of Oct. 24. In it they made known that what Stoldt had said goes against the university's values and traditions.

"We will not tolerate language or the actions like the ones displayed in this video, and we are taking appropriate steps to immediately address this issue," the statement read.

AU's further actions to investigate and address Stoldt's video have not yet been shared publicly.

The statement concluded by describing AU as a community that works to confronts and reject hatred.

"We are determined to not allow the voice of any one individual to divide us," the official statement said. "This incident will only serve to further remind us of the need to continue our efforts to create a campus environment of love and respect, one that seeks to foster understanding and unity."

doors open for people. The whole point of the swipe card system is a sense of safety and security. If they're residential they could still get in the building, but we would have a record of them entering," Lammers said.

Dave McLaughlin the director of Safety Services, has been in his current position for 26 years. McLaughlin agreed in the sense of safety standards and what students should be doing to protect themselves.

"People need to make sure they lock their doors. Not just when they're gone but when they're in the room as well. If you see something, say something and tell the right person right away," McLaughlin said.

To make an incident report if any suspicious activity is occurring, go to www.ashland.edu/student-affairs/health-safety-title-ix/safety-services, click emergency info and click submit an incident report. Anyone can submit a report at anytime, or call Safety Services at 419-207-5555.