

## **Update on Holland & Knight Investigation October 25, 2017**

In March 2016, the law firm of Holland & Knight was engaged to investigate allegations of sexual misconduct on the part of Exeter faculty and staff members.

Since the Academy issued its interim report on the progress of Holland & Knight's work on March 2, the law firm has continued to investigate allegations, including any that may have been reported after that date. The course and duration of an investigation cannot be easily predicted, but Exeter's commitment to an impartial and comprehensive investigation is unwavering. While Holland & Knight understands the community's desire for resolution, we have also made clear to them that we want the investigation to be as thorough as possible.

When Holland & Knight notifies the Academy that it has completed its investigation, the Academy's leadership will communicate the results of that work to the Exeter community. We will be sharing specific findings, along with any changes or actions that may still be needed to ensure, above all else, that Exeter is as safe and healthy as it can be for our students today.

We continue to encourage anyone in the community who is aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, or who may need support and guidance, including on whether they wish to come forward, to contact our Director of Student Well-Being, Christina Palmer. We want to assure you that survivors and witnesses will at all times be treated with sensitivity, respect and privacy.

We are committed to supporting our community both throughout the investigation and after the firm's work is completed. This includes covering the cost of counseling or other therapies for survivors, whether or not they choose to speak with Holland & Knight. If you are seeking such assistance, please contact Ms. Palmer and she will assist you in identifying counseling professionals in your area and can connect you with a survivors' advocate, if needed.

Ms. Palmer can be reached by phone at 603-777-3307 or via email at [cdpalmer@exeter.edu](mailto:cdpalmer@exeter.edu).