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**Sent:** Thursday, December 06, 2012 9:08 AM  
**Subject:** A message from John Coatsworth, Lee Goldman, Robert Kasdin and Jane Booth

Fellow Members of the Columbia Community:

Although most of the students on Columbia University's campuses or enrolled in its programs are over 18 years old, there are thousands of minors present at Columbia over the course of a year. With respect to the protection of minors, Columbia University has a heightened legal and moral obligation to protect those individuals. This letter is a reminder to all members of our community, both in New York City and around the world, of their duty to report suspected cases of abuse, assault or other dangers to individuals under 18 and to inform you of the resources that are available.

Columbia welcomes minors to our campus every day. They are part of our academic programs and activities, athletic programs, summer camps, the (K-8) School at Columbia University, medical clinics and practices, and affiliated childcare centers. We all bear a special responsibility for their care and protection, and we all need to act immediately when we reasonably suspect they may be at risk.

If you believe that a minor may have been abused, assaulted or is otherwise in danger, you must take the following steps:

- If you require emergency assistance or a child is in immediate danger, call 911.
- If you suspect child abuse or neglect:
  - Call the Department of Public Safety: 212-854-5555 (Morningside) or 212-305-7979 (Medical Center) **and**
  - Call the **New York State Child Abuse & Maltreatment Hotline**: 800-342-3720.
- If you suspect sexual assault or harassment of a minor, you should **also**:
  - Call the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action: 212-854-5511.

We must all follow these procedures to ensure that we protect minors who are on our campus or participating in University programs and activities.

Thank you for your careful attention to this important matter.

John H. Coatsworth  
*Provost*

Lee Goldman, MD,  
*Dean of the Faculties of Health Sciences and Medicine,  
Executive Vice President for Health and Biomedical Sciences*

Robert Kasdin  
*Senior Executive Vice President*

Jane E. Booth  
*General Counsel*