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## Message to students in Government

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On Wed, Mar 2, 2016 at 11:56 AM, Dean of Faculty of Arts & Sciences <[dean-as@wm.edu](mailto:dean-as@wm.edu)> wrote:

Dear Students,

You may have recently received an e-mail from an [@sigaint.org](mailto:@sigaint.org) email address indicating a change to your grade in a GOVT 204 class from last semester. Please ignore that communication. Your grade is not being changed, and there is no need to respond to that e-mail in order to retain your final grade for that course. A second email, seemingly sent to students in a different GOVT class, provides an update on Professor Dessler, and provides an email address for relaying information that will be passed along to Professor Dessler. The senders are anonymous, as I urge caution in sending anything to someone whom you do not know. You may also have received a recent e-mail in which the senders claim to be two retired W&M faculty inviting you to participate in a survey. I recommend that you ignore the survey or any similar e-mails.

One of your instructors in the fall, Professor Dessler, remains on the leave that began in October. As I mentioned in my message that month, our primary concern continues to be his overall well-being. At this time, there is no official reason Dr. Dessler has for contacting you. Should he do so, please let me know.

Regarding emails that appear to come from others, I remind you of the Information Security Tips on the university's website (<http://www.wm.edu/offices/it/security/securitytips/index.php>). The department of Information Technology recommends that members of the university community not open email attachments or click on websites in emails unless we really know what we are opening. IT further advises that we do not open, forward, or reply to emails, but delete them. Suspicious emails can also be reported to [abuse@wm.edu](mailto:abuse@wm.edu).

Dean Kate Conley

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