THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY of AMERICA

The National Catholic School of Social Service Office of the Dean

September 27, 2018

Dear NCSSS Community,

I want to send a message asking you for forgiveness. I do so not because I am compelled by some directive, but because I care deeply about you and our School. I pray you accept this message with an open heart ready to understand and accept my apology.

On September 26, 2018, I tweeted a message that unfortunately degraded Ms. Julie Swetnick, a woman who accused Judge Brett Kavanaugh of abusive behavior when he was a teenager. My tweet suggested that she was not a victim of sexual assault. I offer no excuse. It was impulsive and thoughtless and I apologize.

Let me assure you that I am keenly aware from decades of combined law enforcement and social work experience and education that victims who suffer assault and abuse need to be heard, respected, and provided treatment and justice. As a Catholic who loves God and seeks to share His love with the world, I am doubly intent on facilitating the healing of abuse.

I am aware that many of you are angry, frustrated, and hurt. For this I am truly sorry. As always, I remain available to any member of our community that would like to meet with me and discuss this incident or any other matter.

Sincerely,

Will C. Rainford, MSW, PhD