

January 4, 2016

To: American University Community
From: Dan Nichols, Executive Director, Risk, Safety, and Transportation Programs
Subject: Temporary Ban on Hoverboards

Due to safety concerns associated with hoverboards that have been raised by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and the potential impact to the safety of our community, American University has decided to institute a temporary ban on these devices. Effective January 4, 2016, and until further notice, hoverboards, also known as self-balancing scooters and hands-free segways, will not be permitted on campus or in any AU owned building. They will be added to the prohibited items list.

This action is being taken as part of the university's efforts to maintain a safe campus through a comprehensive fire prevention program. Several agencies are investigating fires and injuries related to these devices. This link provides information from the CPSC: <http://www.cpsc.gov/en/About-CPSC/Chairman/Kaye-Biography/Chairman-Kayes-Statements/Statements/Statement-from-the-US-CPSC-Chairman-Elliot-F-Kaye-on-the-safety-of-hoverboards/>.

If you own a hoverboard, please do not bring the device on campus. Once the CPSC has concluded their review, Risk Management will revisit the status of this temporary ban in consultation with the Office of the Campus Life, Housing and Dining Programs.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your support of campus safety initiatives.