

Alfred University to host community discussion on civility

2/19/04

The Alfred University Task Force on Civility and Violence Prevention will host a community discussion on the topics at 7 p.m. March 1 at the Union University Church Center. The AU task force, appointed in May 2003 by President Charles M. Edmondson, is chaired by Gerald Brody, vice president for Student Affairs, and Dr. Louis Lichtman, professor of psychology. "Because the University and the community in which we live and work are so closely related, we thought it appropriate to involve people from the community in our discussions," said Brody in announcing the open forum. The format will be similar to what has been done in two colloquia already held on campus, said Brody. The first part will be an open discussion on how issues relating to civility and violence have affected the community, with the second part soliciting suggestions from the residents on how to promote civility and decrease violence. "We are fortunate that here in Alfred, we have only isolated incidents, but we also recognize that across the nation, the decline in civility and the increase in violence has become a problem on college campuses and in the communities in which those institutions are located," said Brody. "Our task force was charged with taking proactive approach to problems," added Brody. "Our goal is to develop strategies to reduce irresponsible use of alcohol; promote bystander intervention; increase student participation in events and activities on campus; appreciate individual differences among all residents of our community; and to teach students about the cultural traditions and expectations of the Alfred community." Those who are unable to attend the colloquium are asked to e-mail their comments to Brody (brodyj@alfred.edu) or Lichtman (flich@alfred.edu) or to send their comments to either one of the chairs at One Saxon Drive, Alfred, NY 14802.