

DEAR CSU STUDENTS AND CAMPUS COMMUNITY MEMBERS,

Due to significant concerns about safety for CSU students and others who participate who are not members of our campus community, the university will not allow the “undie run” to take place this year.

In several instances, the run has not been organized by currently enrolled students. The run has never been approved, organized or supported by the university, and each year we have conveyed to students the safety risks and financial costs of the event to discourage participation. Large police and staff presence in the past has occurred only to monitor the run for student protection.

The university asks that you not participate in efforts to continue to hold the run and that you not come to campus with the intent to participate in the run. Please take a moment to read this to better understand why the run will no longer take place.

While students view the run as a tradition and an opportunity to blow off steam before finals, the reality of the environment it creates on campus and in the city before, during, and after the run is much different. The university has, and has always had, significant concerns about this event.

Here are the reasons we're not allowing the run to occur anymore:

- The run invokes an atmosphere of public intoxication and behavior that risks personal injury or serious injury to others and sexual misconduct. Past participants, particularly women, have reported groping and sexual assault during the run and at after-parties.
- CSU staff and faculty observe people – including non-students and other adults who are not part of our community – who come to the run only to take photographs and videos of participants without the participants' knowledge or permission. The photo takers keep those images for their personal use or post it online. The university – and you as a participant – have no control over how images of you captured in public are used. This is extremely concerning to us and should be to all participants.
- We estimate that, since the run began several years ago, the university has spent more than \$150,000 in student tuition and fee money to cover the costs of property damage caused by participants and to pay for security.
- CSU students perceive participants to be fellow Rams; however, we know that young high school students from the area also participate, as do adults who are not attending any school, and those who attend neighboring universities and community colleges. These participants and bystanders are not invested in the safety and reputation of our community.

The university is asking that you not organize or participate in the run or any similar activity.

Unfortunately, we realize that individuals – both CSU students and non-students – may disregard these concerns. To those who may disregard the safety of our community, please consider:

Police will monitor the behavior of those who make the decision to participate and will take enforcement action for any criminal offenses. University volunteers will be on site to prevent a crowd from assembling on campus, in accordance with our policy that does not allow an unauthorized crowd to gather on campus in the evening for non-university-sanctioned events, large assemblies, and expressive activities other than for official university business.

If there is an indication that there will continue to be plans to assemble, there will be a heightened police presence on campus and off campus. If there are plans to assemble off campus, police and university volunteers will also respond. If people assemble, police will take video of the area. Images will be used to follow up on complaints and potential criminal incidents to identify individuals who behave inappropriately. The university will work with police to hold students accountable through the legal and student conduct process. If non-CSU students engage in inappropriate or criminal behavior, CSU may take enforcement action and will share information with other entities and agencies that can hold those individuals accountable, including high schools, universities, and other police agencies.

If at any time while you are on campus you are touched inappropriately, please note your location and try to get a detailed description of the person who touched you. Please report this information to CSUPD police as soon as possible. If you touch others inappropriately, the university will choose to share your description or an image of you with the public in an effort to identify you and hold you accountable for your actions.

If you experience unwanted sexual touching or need to talk with someone about sexual assault or misconduct, please contact the victims advocate team at CSU on its confidential, 24-hour hotline at 970-492-4242.

Next fall, the university will create a committee, which would include students as members, to consider proposals from students for an alternative, safe springtime event.

Please help us end this unauthorized gathering, which causes harm to your fellow Rams.

Thank you,
The Public Safety Team



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY