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Bridgeport's reported rideshare sexual assault sparks safety reminders at Quinnipiac



TYLER MIGNAULT/CHRONICLE

By AVA HIGHLAND
News Editor

Following a reported sexual assault in Bridgeport early Sunday morning involving a rideshare service, Quinnipiac University Public Safety Chief Tony Reyes urged students to practice safety in a campus-wide email.

"According to police, the suspect is believed to have been operating as a rideshare driver at the time of the alleged assault," Reyes wrote.

The incident did not involve anyone from Quinnipiac, however Reyes shared the suspect's physical description and vehicle information with students to raise awareness in the event that the driver enters campus.

"There was no danger to our campus," Reyes said to The Chronicle. "I like providing information to our community on anything that could impact them."

The suspect is described as a Black male operating a rideshare vehicle — a 2020 Kia Sportage with the license plate BX-11957 registered in Waterbury. There are no other identifying details at the time of publication.

"Uber drivers can go anywhere," Reyes said. "We want to make sure that students that use rideshare services are aware of that particular plate and that vehicle in case it's a driver that does come to our campus to

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SGA and Disability Student Union host campus accessibility Town Hall

By AVA HIGHLAND
News Editor

Quinnipiac University's Student Government Association collaborated with the Disability Student Union to host an Accessibility Town Hall March 18, as a continuation of SGA's State of the QUnion Feb. 21.

Moderated by SGA Vice President Julianna Mazzella, the event allowed students to interact with the panelists — Assistant Director of the Office of Student Accessibility Ted Czepiga and Vice President of Inclusive Excellence John Armendariz — in an open discussion about campus accessibility. Students asked questions, shared personal stories and proposed new measures they hope to see implemented.

DSU's president and founder Adeline Colciaghi, a junior interdisciplinary studies major, shared opening remarks to kick off the event.

"I grew up in a very small town where there were not many people like me for much of my early life," Colciaghi said. "Accessibility was something that I always had to think about constantly. It shaped where I could go… however, the first time I stepped onto campus at Quinnipiac, I felt something I hadn't felt before. I felt hope. I felt that I wasn't defined to find my physical limitations, and I felt empowered."

Colciaghi created the DSU just under a year ago and has seen large growth as well as awareness, leading to events like Wednesday's Town Hall.



LAYNIE CLARK/CHRONICLE

Left to right: SGA Vice President Julianna Mazzella, DSU's president and founder Adeline Colciaghi, a junior interdisciplinary studies major, Assistant Director of the Office of Student Accessibility Ted Czepiga and Vice President of Inclusive Excellence John Armendariz discuss campus accessibility at the Town Hall event March 18.

"As the whole starter of this club, (it) feels incredible," Colciaghi said in an interview with The Chronicle. "I think we just need to continue what we're doing and just raise awareness. And it feels astonishing."

The discussion opened with several questions posed by Mazzella on how the university ensures students with disabilities have equal opportunities as peers, especially with accessibility barriers.

Czepiga noted that the "scope" of OSA is to remove barriers, however they are sometimes unaware one exists until it is brought to their attention. He urged students to speak up if they notice those barriers and advocate for accessibility, even if it does not affect them directly.

As for what OSA is working on, Czepiga nodded to a new testing center expected to be up and running in fall 2026, which will expand the office's operations and data.

Armendariz highlighted that for him, Wednesday's event was personal.

"I would be legally deaf, and there was a definition for that," Armendariz said.

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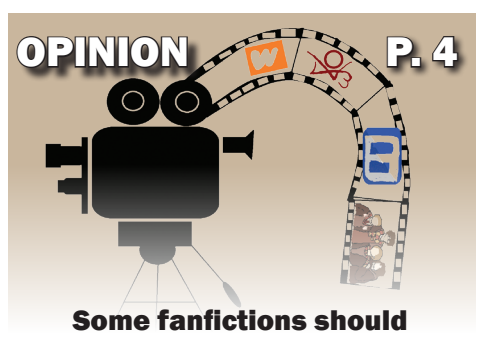

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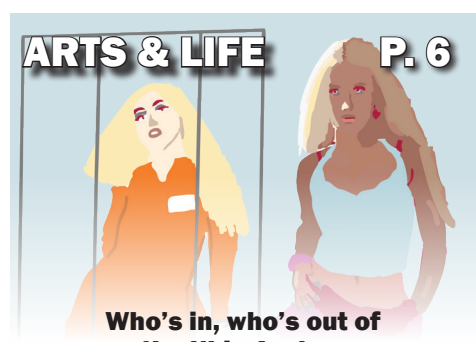

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Amarri Monroe redefining program loyalty in college athletics