



Office of the President

West Chester University | West Chester, Pennsylvania 19383 | 610-436-2471 | www.wcupa.edu

Dear West Chester University Community,

At this truly unprecedented time in our history when lives have been altered significantly across the globe, we cannot help but halt and reflect upon the recent news of the tragic events in Minnesota, New York, and Georgia. Our thoughts today are with the victims and families of all those affected by such horrific acts of hate, racism, and intolerance. The pain brought on from all that has been lost amid such injustice and despair prompts us to pause in the midst of our own realities.

We, as a community of educators, must take this moment to underscore our dedication to all of our diverse communities, which include our students, faculty, alumni, staff, and many friends. As we strive to prepare our students to be lifelong learners committed to the common good, it is important to call attention to what we inspire all of our graduates to embrace as productive activity in our society:

- Apply scientific reasoning and demonstrate quantitative and qualitative literacy
- Collaborate with others to solve problems and address societal needs
- Communicate effectively and participate in civic discourse
- Engage inclusively in a diverse society
- Understand the ethical implications of decisions and the world in which they live

Such intentional learning outcomes reinforce this University's mission and can be found in daily practice through our requirements, which include a series of courses in Diverse Communities. Our Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ODEI) lends further support to our strategic plan, which prioritizes diversity, inclusion, and the development of cultural competence among students, faculty, and staff. As part of this ongoing commitment, ODEI led West Chester University's participation in a recent national climate survey, and more than 2,250 students, faculty, and staff have participated in a variety of free trainings and educational opportunities organized by the Office. Know that the University is committed to providing spaces to discuss, as well as to gain knowledge and skills that will enable our community to make positive contributions that will defy all issues of intolerance.

As we look to the days and weeks ahead, I encourage you to build bridges of cultural competence, empathy, and understanding in all corners of our communities. We are Golden Rams and we must lead the way.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chris Fiorentino'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Fiorentino, Ph.D.
President