

A NOTE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

As you are all aware, two white University of Arizona students have been arrested for the alleged racially motivated assault of an African American University of Arizona student.

It is important that the UA community work collaboratively to address hate and eradicate racism with the goal of making the UA a world class institution that is diverse, equitable and inclusive.

On September 12th, members of the UA Black Student Union (BSU) submitted a list of demands to the university administration. While our work is ongoing, under the leadership and direction of President Robbins, we have worked diligently to address the demands made by the BSU. Among some of the steps the University has taken to support our student body moving forward include:

1. Identifying a national expert in equity and inclusion training to support the higher education law enforcement mission of UAPD.
2. Keeping the African American Student Affairs office open and staffed during critical times to support our students who are seeking safety and community.
3. Coordinating meetings with members of the Senior Leadership Team and the AASA to discuss the alleged assault, its impact, and the administration's response.
4. Facilitating the support of community groups for our impacted students.
5. Working with students to understand and address violence prevention education; parameters of Title IX; available advocacy and support resources (including community resources), and opportunities for multicultural youth to expand their voice.





Additionally, I am pleased to announce that the University will initiate the formation of a Multicultural Student Advisory Council that will serve as a resource and advisory group to the University President and campus senior leaders. Our hope is that this council will strengthen the support our University leadership provides to students, raises awareness about timely issues impacting the student body, and increases the transparency and student understanding of University processes. You will hear more about this in the coming weeks.

We appreciate your continued support and patience. As you engage with us in the days ahead please remember the words of Martin Luther King Jr. “The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.” MLK Jr.

Ron Wilson

Vice President & Title IX Coordinator
Division of Equity, Inclusion & Title IX

