



MESSAGE *FROM THE INTERIM* PRESIDENT

Nov. 18, 2019

Dear Emily, Peter, and the members of the Baobab Society and the Undergraduate Student Association:

Thank you for the work you and your organizations have undertaken in addressing the recent racial incidents at Syracuse University. I was pleased to see the statement you sent to our community this past Friday. I am writing today to provide you and the campus community with an update relative to the College's response to the course of action you have taken and advocated for:

1. Several members of the President's Executive Cabinet and the Academic Governance Executive Committee will be in attendance at tomorrow's Open Forum. I am pleased you have asked that I offer remarks toward the end of the Open Forum. I sent a message to ESF faculty and staff earlier today encouraging them to attend the Open Forum to listen to what is on the minds of our students and to be part of crafting the solutions moving forward.
2. The Office of the President has sent two communications to our campus about this situation – one on Friday morning and one on Saturday morning. These communications were designed to articulate our support to the underrepresented members of our community who may be feeling fear and anxiety regarding this situation. Additionally, the various campus supports available to our community were included as well as information about how individuals can report bias incidents should they occur. In Saturday's communication, the ESF University Police Department plans to enhance their presence on and around campus was articulated.
3. Our Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Malika Carter, and other members of our community are exploring ways to educate our community and foster shared values around inclusion by providing mandatory anti-bias training for all members of the campus community. Plans for this are still evolving, and we want to engage our community in discussions about the development of this. We welcome your ideas and suggestions related to this.

Thank you again for your advocacy. We look forward to working together to enhance the climate at ESF towards a more equitable community.

Sincerely,

Dave Amberg
Interim President