August 6, 2019 - From the President's Desk

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Dear Campus Community,

It is with a heavy heart that I send condolences from across the world where the news of the Oregon District tragedy spread just as quickly as it did across Dayton. Here in Italy our men's basketball team, support staff, faculty, and supporters are representing Wright State University and honoring earth and environmental sciences student Megan Betts, who lost her life in the shooting. Like you, we are somber yet resolute in our determination to help define #WrightStateStrong and #DaytonStrong during these terrible circumstances.

I know that our university is in Provost Susan Edwards' capable hands. She has shared with you the critical information you need to know about how our Wright State family has been impacted and where you can seek support. The gathering she and Interim Vice Provost for Student Affairs Gary Dickstein coordinated in the Student Union Atrium was unifying and emotional.

Today many are scared, anxious, and angry following the weekend’s events. But we must not let those feelings define us. It is through kindness that we will find our way through, and it is with kindness that we combat the senseless actions of those who have lost their way.

It is important to understand that for some of us, it will take time to reconcile the emotions we are experiencing. We must remember and remind each other that it is not a weakness to ask for help. Wright State is supporting you and wants to help. You need only to reach out and we will be there. If you are hurting or having a difficult time dealing with this tragedy, please take advantage of the following:

Students can seek confidential support services through Counseling and Wellness Services at 053 Student Union or by calling 937-775-3407. Also available is our Raider Cares Phone Service/Crisis Text Line. Raider Cares is Counseling and Wellness Services’ 24-hour crisis phone service. You can reach the Raider Cares Line by calling 833-848-1765 (TTY: 314-485-4345). Additionally, you also have access to a Crisis Text Line that offers 24-hour, seven-day per week text contact with trained crisis counselors. You can reach them by texting "LISTEN" to 741-741. The Crisis Text Line is NOT affiliated with Counseling and Wellness Services or Wright State.

Wright State’s Faculty and Staff Assistance Program (FSAP) provides support services for employees. Call FSAP at 800-227-6007 or visit the Impact Solutions website at myimpactsolution.com. Use member username: wsufsap.

Please keep everyone affected by this situation in your thoughts and prayers as we begin the process of healing from this great loss.

Warmest regards,

Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.
President