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August 28, 2017 - From the President's Desk

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August 28, 2017 - From the President's Desk

Dear Campus
Community,

This week we welcome thousands of new and returning students to our Dayton and Lake Campuses. It is an invigorating time as we enthusiastically begin another academic year with a renewed commitment to



transforming the lives of our students and the communities we serve.

We are a university where we measure success not by those we exclude but by those we include. We are a community that commits to creating an environment where every student learns and grows without prejudice, intimidation, or discrimination. Our diversity of perspective, thought, and individuality is our greatest strength.

As we celebrate the beginning of another year, many of us are also wrestling with the impact of the recent actions of others in Charlottesville, Virginia. Acts of racism, anti-Semitism, violence, and hatred continue to exist in our country. Let me be clear: Hateful actions and speech are not welcome at Wright State University. The senior leadership team at Wright State is united—we strongly condemn the violence that occurred in Charlottesville, Virginia. This behavior is incongruent with our commitment to creating and sustaining a safe, accepting, and welcoming environment for people of all identities and backgrounds.

My hope is you will join me in doing the following:

- Be willing to engage in difficult yet civil and productive conversations with others who believe differently than you do;
- Counter negative speech with positive speech; and
- Counter hateful action with acts of kindness.

I encourage every member of the Wright State family to shine a light on incidents of violence and hatred. If you experience or become aware of such incidents, you are encouraged to report them via our [anonymous reporting system](#) or directly to the Office of Equity and Inclusion by email at oei@wright.edu or telephone at (937) 775-3207.

We are a community that is committed to justice, inclusion, freedom of expression, and civil discourse. We will remain steadfast in our opposition to discrimination in any form.

As an educational institution, we have the ability to transform lives through the varied curricular and co-curricular experiences offered in our local and expanded communities. Please join me in welcoming our new and returning students, staff, faculty, and alumni to a community where everyone is welcome and where we celebrate the contributions that diversity and inclusion bring to our campus and to our lives.

Warmest regards and go Raiders,

Cheryl B. Schrader, Ph.D.
President

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