February 14, 2019 - From the President's Desk

Cheryl B. Schrader
Wright State University - Main Campus
Dear Campus Community,

I’m pleased to report that faculty members are back in the classroom. I sincerely welcome them back, as I’m sure you do, too.

Wright State University and AAUP-WSU reached an agreement Sunday on two successor labor contracts that brought the 20-day strike to a close. The Wright State Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the contracts Monday. Read the Term Sheet for Successor Contracts 2-10-19 (PDF).

This agreement serves Wright State and our students well. Both parties made substantial concessions to help move the university forward together. We are united in our collective calling to serve our students.

I’ve often heard the phrase “United We Stand,” but I feel a more appropriate saying is “United We Soar.”

Just as Orville Wright needed Wilbur…Wilbur needed Orville…and they both needed their sister Katharine, we need each other. Our Wright State family is stronger when we work together and support each other. I witnessed that firsthand as people all across campus pulled together to support our students.

I especially want to thank our amazing students for their patience, flexibility, and commitment to Wright State. You are why we are here.

We are all processing what we've gone through. That process takes time and will be at a pace that is unique to each of us. Whether it is through patience, respect or even physical space, I ask that you give others what they need as they too are processing all of this in their own way, and that's okay. Most of all, I hope we can continue to be kind to each other. It is through kindness that we can endure anything.

Like a family, we will not always agree. But as with families, our bonds are greater than our differences. Our bonds are all around us. They are our students and our unwavering commitment to support them in their journey through Wright State and beyond.

We have weathered some tough times over the last several years, but a new day is dawning for our great university. Let's keep our eyes on the horizon and chart a course focused on a future overflowing with triumphs we accomplish together.

I’d love to hear your thoughts about how we can come together to best serve our students and our communities. Just drop me a note in our Idea Box.

I know this time has been stressful. If you would like help dealing with your emotions or other matters, please take advantage of Wright State’s Faculty and Staff Assistance Program (FSAP), provided at no cost to employees. Call FSAP at (800) 227-6007 or visit the Impact Solutions website. Use member username: wsufsap.

Likewise, as always, students can seek helpful support services through Counseling and Wellness Services at (937) 775-3407.

Once again, I am reminded of the words of Wilbur Wright: “It is not really necessary to look too far into the future. We see enough already to be certain that it will be magnificent.”

United We Soar.

Warmest regards,