June 3, 2020

Dear ISU Students:

The murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery have exposed to more people that racism is still prevalent in our country. We are frustrated and saddened by the police brutality and injustice against African Americans. We support the peaceful and courageous protestors who want change in our country and our local community. We want that change too.

My responsibility as interim Vice President for Student Affairs is to facilitate positive change through education. In Student Affairs, we educate by advocating, engaging, and including students. Part of the role of an educator is also to learn from others. To learn, we must listen to one another.

Over the next several days, I will be reaching out to many student organization leaders to listen to their viewpoints on what has transpired over the last several months in our nation. This fall the Division of Student Affairs will collaborate with Academic Affairs to engage our students in the study of these societal issues and chart a path to action in order to fulfill our mission to learn how to work to secure a more just society. We hope you choose to be a part of these efforts.

The Division of Student Affairs is here to help advocate for all our students. Below are some of those departments that may be of most assistance for students during this time:

1. Charles E. Brown African American Cultural Center
2. Multicultural Services & Programs
   a. International Student Resource Center
   b. La Casita Student Resource Center
   c. LGBTQ* Student Resource Center
   d. Women’s Resource Center
3. Student Counseling Center
4. Dean of Students: Sycamores Care
5. Victim Advocate

One of my favorite quotes has been my Facebook cover photo for many years. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote it in 1963 and it says, “Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

Please take care of yourself and please do not hesitate to reach out to us in Student Affairs.

Sincerely,

Andy Morgan, Ph.D.
Interim Vice President for Student Affairs