

To the UMKC Community:

This is an important time for UMKC, for the University of Missouri System, and for Missouri. This is a time for us to be united, and to be heard. Here is our statement as a university community:

- As an urban-serving public research university, UMKC is dedicated to and believes in a university where ALL students, staff, and faculty feel respected and valued, as well as have a voice. The diversity we have on the UMKC campus reflects our ideals and is an important part of the strength of our academic and social missions.
- Furthermore, we, the UMKC community, stand behind these principles and believe that education and engagement are the best way to combat systematic injustice. We reaffirm our commitment to a real and meaningful dialogue at all levels on campus to ensure that ALL people understand that they are a valued part of the university community. During this academic year, we will do our part to engage our community in reaffirming our commitment to civility, professionalism, and appreciation of diversity in all its forms.
- We are concerned for the health and welfare of all students in the UM System, especially Jonathan Butler, whose efforts have helped gain national and international attention for this issue. We hope he can remain a vital part of the broad and important discussions that need to occur.

This is a time when many people will have strong feelings, and a desire to give voice to those feelings. We ask all members of our community to listen attentively, and with respect, to those who wish to be heard. To our faculty, please consider using your class time today as an opportunity for dialogue on these important matters. We appreciate the commitment of all at UMKC to thoughtful dialogue based on mutual respect.

Peggy Ward-Smith, Chair, Faculty Senate

Ida Ayalew, President, Student Government Association

Steve Pankey, Chair, Staff Council

Raymond Cattaneo, President, Alumni Governing Board

Mel Tyler, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management

Susan B. Wilson, Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion

Sharon Lindenbaum, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration

Carol Hintz, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources

Carla Wilson, Director of Athletics

Anne Hartung Spenner, Vice Chancellor, Strategic Marketing and Communications

Curt Crespino, Vice Chancellor, University Advancement

Barbara A. Bichelmeyer, Provost

Leo E. Morton, Chancellor