



October 26, 2000

An Open Letter to the University Community

This semester there have been a number of disturbing events at the University that have been motivated by hate and prejudice. In recent weeks we have seen intimidating and hostile communications, acts of racial discrimination, violence and sexual assaults, as well as other criminal behaviors. These attacks on the well-being of our community are hateful actions perpetrated by those who want to tear down the bridges that connect our increasingly diverse learning community. They are repulsive actions that rely on fear, intimidation and threats. And they must not be allowed to continue.

As academic and administrative leaders at Penn State, we are writing this open letter to members of the University community as an invitation for you to join us and President Graham B. Spanier in our stand against incivility and acts of violence, prejudice and hatred. As a community, we can reclaim our strength and power over these threatening and harmful incidents by uniting and addressing acts of intolerance.

We say to all who would engage in these behaviors that we will not tolerate such actions and we will not allow anyone to divide our community. As President Spanier indicated in an earlier statement, we must not remain silent. For in silence, hate will grow. We must work together to make all of our campuses hate-free zones.

We call on you, the members of our University community, to join us in our fight as we build a coalition against hatred — a community in which all members are accepted and valued. Let us stand together to denounce actions of hate, incivility, and violence. Let us, instead, create opportunities to educate others about the rights of every member of our society and to celebrate the richness of our diversity.

There is still a lot of work to be done. As a community we plan to initiate an aggressive educational campaign to combat acts of hate.

Please join us in this effort.

President's Council

William W. Asbury, <i>Vice President for Student Affairs</i>	Janis E. Jacobs, <i>Vice President for Administration</i>	Eva J. Pell, <i>Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School</i>
Wendell V. Courtney, <i>University Counsel</i>	Darrell G. Kirch, <i>Senior Vice President for Health Affairs, Dean of the College of Medicine, and Chief Executive Officer</i>	James H. Ryan, <i>Vice President for Outreach and Cooperative Extension</i>
Timothy M. Curley, <i>Director of Intercollegiate Athletics</i>	Rodney P. Kirsch, <i>Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations</i>	Gary C. Schultz, <i>Senior Vice President for Finance and Business/Treasurer</i>
Richard D. DiEugenio, <i>Special Assistant to the President for Governmental Relations</i>	Stephen J. MacCarthy, <i>Executive Director of University Relations</i>	Robert A. Secor, <i>Vice Provost for Academic Affairs</i>
Rodney A. Erickson, <i>Executive Vice President and Provost of the University</i>		

Council of Academic Deans

Cheryl Achterberg, <i>Dean, The Schreyer Honors College</i>	Nancy L. Eaton, <i>Dean, University Libraries</i>	David H. Monk, <i>Dean, College of Education</i>
Douglas A. Anderson, <i>Dean, College of Communications</i>	Frederick H. Gaige, <i>Dean and Campus Executive Officer, Penn State Berks, Berks-Lehigh Valley College</i>	Judy D. Olian, <i>Dean, The Mary Jean and Frank P. Smeal College of Business Administration</i>
John J. Cahir, <i>Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education</i>	Peter G. Glenn, <i>Dean, The Dickinson School of Law</i>	John J. Romano, <i>Vice Provost and Dean for Enrollment Management and Administration</i>
William G. Cale, Jr., <i>Dean and Campus Executive Officer, Penn State Altoona College</i>	Madlyn L. Hanes, <i>Provost and Dean, Penn State Capital College</i>	Karen Wiley Sandler, <i>Dean and Campus Executive Officer, Penn State Abington</i>
Raymond T. Coward, <i>Dean, College of Health and Human Development</i>	Daniel J. Larson, <i>Dean, Eberly College of Science</i>	Robert D. Steele, <i>Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences</i>
Richard W. Durst, <i>Dean, College of Arts and Architecture</i>	John L. Leathers, <i>Interim Dean of the Commonwealth College</i>	James B. Thomas, <i>Dean, School of Information Sciences and Technology</i>
John A. Dutton, <i>Dean, College of Earth and Mineral Sciences</i>	John M. Lilley, <i>Provost and Dean, Penn State Erie, The Behrend College</i>	Susan Welch, <i>Dean, College of the Liberal Arts</i>
	Beverly Lindsay, <i>Dean, University Office of International Programs</i>	David N. Wormley, <i>Dean, College of Engineering</i>