



April 21, 2021

Dear Campus Community:

Many in the campus community may have experienced a range of emotions during the death of George Floyd and the trial of Derek Chauvin who murdered him. This trial highlights the racial divide, the history of violence against Black, Indigenous, Asian, Latinx, and other people of color, and the deepest distress caused by systemic racism. The historic verdict of guilty on all charges is a testament that there is going to be accountability on the unnecessary use of force against minority and all people. The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and our partners stand in solidarity with everyone who is impacted. [We applaud President Seidel's statement to the campus community](#) yesterday.

Ambreia (Rochaun) Meadows-Fernandez is a University of Wyoming graduate student in American Studies and published journalist. She sent one of her articles to me recently, "[We can't all be on the frontlines. That doesn't mean we aren't fighting for our lives.](#)" I am sharing this article because her words may resonate with many of you. The article features a picture of Ambreia with one of her beautiful children. To me, this article provides a perspective into the unique ways to create a better world. The trial is over but the work is not. We encourage your wellness and self-care.

As students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members, we have persevered together. I appreciate everyone who works to make the campus community better for diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in their own way. Thank you.

In the coming weeks, I encourage you to visit the [Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion](#) and the [Social Justice Research Center](#) websites for updates for the 2021-2022 academic year programs. We are committed to ongoing dialogue and actions that create lasting changes that contribute to ending racism and other forms of discrimination and hate in our society towards anyone.

Sincerely,

Emily A. Monago, PhD, MPA

Chief Diversity Officer

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion