June 1, 2020

Dear Lumberjacks,

At a time in history when we face a global pandemic that is asking us to isolate to protect one another, we also need to unite against inequality and injustice.

The events following the deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and others are challenging us to do what we can to stop everyday acts of injustice and violence that members of our society experience on a daily basis.

I am reaching out to the NAU and Flagstaff community to eschew hate and division and show solidarity and unity as a community and a nation.

During this challenging time, I urge you to seek and promote humanity, encourage unity and peaceful discourse, and demand sustained effective action. It’s time for all of us to work together to ensure we live in a country where everyone feels listened to, safe, and protected.

The Office of Inclusion: Multicultural & LGBTQIA Student Services (IMQ), and Ivy Banks, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Engagement and Inclusive Excellence, are offering several resources and inviting our NAU community to take action:

- Take part in a virtual moment of silence at noon on Thursday, June 4
- Attend the Diversity Dialogue at 4 p.m. Wednesday, June 10
- Enroll in NAU’s unconscious bias training and Inclusion Zone

To RSVP or enroll, please email inclusion@nau.edu.

We offer our support to those who have been affected by recent and historic tragic events, and we encourage those who are in a position to help take a moment to show solidarity and call for peaceful, effective action.

Thank you for your support and commitment to NAU.
Sincerely,

Rita Hartung Cheng
President