

A Message From the Interim Dean

Interim Dean, Tosha Dupras <tosha.dupras@ucf.edu>

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Dear Staff, Faculty, Students, Alumni, and Supporters of the College of Sciences,

Yesterday I issued a statement regarding my stance on the systemic and institutional racism affecting members of our college and greater community. I once again emphasize that the College of Sciences promotes diversity and inclusion, and provides a safe environment for all individuals of different races, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and religions to work and learn. It has been brought to my attention that there was an unintentional error in this message. I would like to correct this error here: #BlackLivesMatter. There was no disrespect intended, and I apologize if I have offended anyone. I sincerely hope this error did not detract from the full intent of my message, particularly in light of the events of today.

Last evening and throughout the day, I have received many emails expressing concern and outrage regarding the Twitter content belonging to Dr. Charles Negy. I would like to thank those of you who stepped forward to say something and alert me about this issue.

As the Interim Dean of the College of Sciences, I want to assure our staff, faculty, students, alumni, and supporters that Dr. Negy's comments are not representative of our values as a college, nor do those comments fall in line with the College of Sciences' commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

UCF leadership is aware of these tweets and are actively working to address this situation. I cannot speak to next steps until they are finalized, but I'm reaching out to let you know that the administration is moving forward.

I would encourage you to speak up. Two anonymous and secure resources are the Office of Institutional Equity (<https://www.oie.ucf.edu/>) and our UCF Integrity Line at <https://compliance.ucf.edu/compliance-helpline/>

Finally, I urge you all to attend and participate in the virtual conversation about race and unity to be held this Friday (June 5th) from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Sincerely,



TOSHA DUPRAS, PH.D.
Interim Dean, College of Sciences

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