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Memorandum

To: The ECU Community

From: Steve Ballard
Chancellor

Date: September 11, 2014

East Carolina University is deeply committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive environment for learning and living. This is not optional.

Honoring that commitment requires intentional actions by each of us, as well as by the university.

A recent event has shown a need to heighten our institutional and individual awareness of our enduring values, which are a source of unity and respect, and serve as a guide for our behaviors and commitments.

East Carolina University must be a community that is free from fear and one where acceptance of different races, genders, religions, ages, ethnicities, cultures, national origins and sexual orientations is practiced every day as a core value.

Our university has a longstanding position of zero tolerance for behaviors and actions that violate the principles of civility and inclusion.

It is my direct expectation that all of us at East Carolina University understand our deep institutional commitment to these core values and the principles they represent. I ask that each of us further recognize that we have an individual responsibility to honor and practice these values by serving as positive role models and to be thoughtful in our words and actions.

Educational opportunities, some of which will include active collaboration with local, regional and national organizations, are planned to occur within the next few weeks. Please watch for announcements of these upcoming discussions and encourage students to attend and participate.

I seek your support in this critical effort and ask you to proactively help educate our community — especially our students — about this commitment and what it requires from all of us.