

January 24, 2018

Dear Western Oregon University community,

Welcome to winter term 2018. As you know, our mission and strategic plan, *Forward Together*, place our students at the center of all we do at Western Oregon University. We strive to provide an inclusive and supportive environment for learning, working and living for all students and employees.

The recent strategic planning process reaffirmed and agreed upon key values that our campus embodies, including:

Community – We value being a trustworthy, caring and safe environment for the cultivation of peace, civility and social justice; we value our connections that extend beyond the classroom, across campus and into our local and global communities.

Diversity & Respect – We value equity and inclusion; we recognize a fundamental basis in human diversity; we appreciate the complexity of the world; and we draw strength from our variety of backgrounds, abilities, cultural experiences, identities, knowledge domains and means of expression.

Although it can be challenging to uphold these values every day, we must be steadfast in our commitment to our community and our principles. At times, our community falls short of these values. When this happens, we want to know the context and circumstances surrounding our shortcomings so we can provide support and engage in collective problem-solving to build a more inclusive environment.

WOU provides resources to assist or campus in fostering an inclusive, caring community. For example, the [University Diversity Committee](#) can connect you to campus offices and student organizations that are actively building an inclusive community at WOU. Additionally, Western provides support through [Campus Public Safety](#), the [Student Health and Counseling Center](#) and the [Office of Student Conduct](#).

To assist our community in addressing bias-related incidents, we have recently developed an online [Bias Reporting Form](#). The link to the online form can be found on the [Division of Student Affairs](#) website.

I ask that you use this form to report bias-related incidents, activities or behavior at WOU. These reports will be reviewed by WOU's CARE Team. The CARE team will identify appropriate responses and help effect any needed changes in university policy.

In closing, I invite each of you to support Western in its efforts to stand for our values of community, diversity and respect.

Sincerely,



Rex Fuller
President

Office of the President
