

June 6, 2016

To: Campus Community

Fr: Margaret Klawunn, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Re: **Campus Community**

This has been a complicated year for our campus community. Mirroring the national political scene, there have been various events, programs, and chalking that have challenged members of our community and the UCSB Principles of Community which are listed below.

Students, faculty and staff have expressed concerns about disrespectful and offensive statements that are intended to provoke upset. Although we endorse the principles of free speech, and the free exchange of ideas, as well as a speaker's legal right to offend, remarks at some events were widely perceived to undermine our sense of community and violate our norms of civil discourse.

The UCSB community is strong and resilient. I appreciate the ways in which those who felt challenged, hurt, insulted, or otherwise by the words and actions of various speakers have used these events as an opportunity to support your friends and colleagues, to plan counter-events, or just to speak up. I appreciate those who are modeling respectful and civil questioning and expression, who understand that constructive discourse, no matter how passionate, should not result in degradation.

We must all endeavor to protect freedom of expression on this campus, but we should never forget our core principles of civility and respect. At UCSB, we value an inclusive campus. We value every student experience. We value our faculty, staff, and students in all their diversity of identities and perspectives. We all have a place here and a right to live and learn in a civil community.

RESPECT AND CONSIDERATION in interaction with others

INTEGRITY in academic pursuits

FREE, OPEN, AND RESPECTFUL exchange of ideas

CONTRIBUTIONS to and participation in the community