



BUTLER UNIVERSITY

## A MESSAGE *from* STUDENT AFFAIRS

Dear Butler Students,

Your college years are an excellent time to explore varying perspectives and embrace the discomfort inherent in learning about viewpoints and experiences different from your own. We provide many opportunities, including through the Student Government Association (SGA), for students to explore complex issues and diverse viewpoints through hands-on leadership development and learning opportunities. Recently, some Butler students have shared concerns related to an SGA-sponsored educational event, Boycott and Safe Protesting, and that it promoted antisemitism. Much discussion has occurred within SGA following this event, and SGA is continuing its work on this issue. Next week, SGA will introduce several resolutions on this matter.

**To be very clear, any form of religious discrimination, including antisemitism, is not acceptable and will not be tolerated.**

While freedom of speech and freedom of expression are critical on a university campus, so is creating a climate of acceptance and appreciation for the value and richness of the many cultures and ideas found here. I am deeply concerned when any of our students find our campus unsafe or unwelcoming. Please remember incidents of bias can and should be reported immediately through our [online reporting system](#). These reports are taken seriously and reviewed by our Bias Assessment and Response Team. I also want to remind you that the [Center for Faith and Vocation](#) is available as a resource for support and spiritual care.

Central to all of our efforts to promote diversity and inclusion on campus is a commitment to the ongoing education of our entire community. To that end, our leaders in the [Center for Faith and Vocation](#) and the [Efroymsen Diversity Center](#) will be working together to facilitate opportunities for civil discourse

where students can engage and learn from each other. Also, we will be implementing training on preventing religious discrimination and ways to foster a more inclusive Butler community. I firmly believe that through training and education we can embrace the similarities we have with one another, while recognizing and respecting our differences—including the many religious, spiritual and political beliefs represented at Butler.

Butler University is committed to creating and maintaining a respectful educational environment in which all members of our community are welcomed, respected, and supported. We will continue working to make sure all students feel safe in our campus community and that we uphold our values of diversity and inclusivity.

Sincerely,

**Frank E. Ross III, PhD**  
Vice President for Student Affairs  
*pronouns: he, him, his*

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