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We Will Not Be Divided

The recent move by certain groups to target members of the Clemson University community with unauthorized flyers calling for people to join self-proclaimed “alt-right” organizations is an effort to divide our community.

It shall not succeed.

As a University, we all share a responsibility to cultivate an environment that is founded on integrity, honesty, respect, and inclusiveness of all regardless of race, sexual orientation, sex, gender expression, ethnicity, or religious belief. Hatred, fascism, bigotry, misogyny, racism must always be rejected. Groups and individuals seeking to sow discord and incite divisiveness by appealing to these sentiments do not share our core values and will not be condoned. Free speech comes with great responsibility, and it does not include the freedom to hurt and demean other human beings. As faculty, we must stand firmly against the content of these flyers and the divisiveness, values and sentiments they represent.

One Clemson is an inclusive Clemson.

Now is a time to come together and rally around the core values that must unite us now and into the future. Let us become more productively and actively engaged in discussions and contribute toward that goal with specific actions and more deliberately support for existing and emerging opportunities, forums, and workshops. Our University is made up of students, staff, and faculty with many diverse views, ambitions, and goals. It is this diversity that makes us strong, vibrant, and resilient. In renouncing those who seek to divide us, we take a stand for a future Clemson that continues to improve itself so we might truly lead as an inclusive force for good in our community, state, nation, and the world.

We stand united.