



Dear UR Students,

During this time of great turmoil on campus, the Offices of Multicultural Affairs and Common Ground want you to know, first and foremost, that we are here and we support the UR Black Student Coalition.

We stand with the UR Black Student Coalition in their demands to see the University work to dismantle white supremacy and specifically to remove the names of enslavers, segregationists, and eugenicists from our buildings.

We hear the students demand more support for mental health services and we recognize the tremendous stress that our Black students, and others, have been experiencing. We urge the University to meet their request for sufficient mental health services, whether on or off campus, by practitioners with whom they share key identities.

We understand that the UR Black Student Coalition are asking students, staff, and faculty to disaffiliate from involvement with any university task forces, student organizations, and fundraising with the goal of disaffiliation being to “cease all uncompensated, extracurricular, public-facing work and programming (public programming being defined as any meeting, activity, or event open to students, faculty, or staff) which UR is in turn able to publicize and profit off of.”

Because the nature of our work is to support underserved communities, in particular multicultural, first-generation, and LGBTQ students, we will continue to be a resource for these students and others, to hold affinity group spaces open if members desire, and to informally invite our populations to gather in community and solidarity, as they may need or request. We will respect the decision of students to disaffiliate from any programs or initiatives supported by our offices.

The Multicultural Space Advisory Board has decided it will open the Multicultural Space as a lounge especially for students of color to support each other in this tumultuous time, understanding that there are not many spaces on campus where students of color feel comfortable gathering. We look forward to building its capacity to meet the social needs of our Black students and students of color in the future.

As a team we agree not to participate in, or promote, this year's UR Giving Day, to cease advertising any activities publicly, such as on social media, or to host any public events that do not directly benefit the underrepresented populations we serve.

Sincerely,

Dr. Tina Cade
Shani Buchholz
E. Lee Dyer IV
Adriane Gibson
Lisa Miles
Dr. Morgan Russell