
[FacultyStaff] Message from Stephen H. Kolison, Jr., Ph.D., October 12, 2023

1 message

President's Office <President.Office@fredonia.edu>

Thu, Oct 12, 2023 at 6:10 PM

Reply-To: president.office@fredonia.edu

To: All Registered students <students@fredonia.edu>, Faculty/Staff group <facultystaff@fredonia.edu>



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 12, 2023

Dear Students,

I hope your Fall semester has been going well and you are enjoying the Fall colors that are underway. Although this is my fourth fall in Western New York and at Fredonia, I remain in awe of the beauty of our campus during this time of the year. I hope you can find some time to walk around campus and take in the beauty of our campus this time of the year.



I am sure you have been watching the events unfolding in Israel. I, too, have been watching the news and feeling very sad. As someone who has personally experienced the impacts of armed conflicts, I am always horrified by the injuries, loss of lives, and the hardships caused by war or armed conflicts. This past weekend, I felt a deep sadness as I watched the images coming out of Israel. Seeing images of children and unarmed civilians killed was haunting.

As you know, the world is becoming a smaller place. Because of that, our connections to others across national boundaries, seas, and oceans have grown and continue to grow closer. What happens in one part of the world could have the potential of impacting others in different parts of the world. We are much more connected today than ever before. So, and I am praying, based on my faith, that there will be divine intervention, and peace and healing will be realized in the war between Israel and Hamas. I am also praying for a peaceful end to the war between Russia and Ukraine, the end to the armed conflict in Sudan, and the end to other armed conflicts around the world.

I am thinking about you and the connections that you might have in these places experiencing armed unrest. I am thinking about how images coming out of these regions, particularly what we are seeing at this moment coming out of Israel, could be having on you and your loved ones. If you are impacted in any way, please know that you can seek help on campus. If you feel that you need to reach out to seek support, I encourage you to do so through the [Counseling Center](#). Support is also available for all 24/7/365 through the Chautauqua County Crisis Hotline (1-800-724-0461) or by texting Got5U to 741-741. To report incidents of discrimination or harassment or incidents of hate or bias, none of which will be tolerated on this campus, please visit [this site](#).

The Office of Student Engagement is organizing some special programming, including a moment of silence at the clocktower on Monday, October 16 at 12:00 p.m. Please see other programming on the website of the [Office of Student Engagement and Inclusion](#).

Students, I hope your midterms have gone well. With the midterms underway, it means that soon we will be coming to the conclusion of the semester. Of course, coming to the conclusion of the semester also means that finals and the completion of special assignments are around the corner. If you are experiencing any challenges, don't feel alone. Now is the time to seek help. Please don't wait until the final weeks of the semester to seek assistance. There are many faculty and staff members who want to provide you with personal assistance. Reach out to your advisor, or contact Academic Advising at 716-673-3188 or email advising@fredonia.edu and let us know how we can help. You can also use the following link to schedule an appointment online: [Schedule an Appointment with an Advisor](#)

I had the opportunity to meet with the President's Student Cabinet today, and at that meeting I learned that a number of things are being planned for you over the next two-three weeks. Here is a list of some of those activities. I hope you will be able to take advantage of these things.

- Paint Cranston Pink - October 13th, Cranston Marche Dining Hall, Fundraising for the American Cancer Society
- Monster Mash - October 28th, 8:00 p.m. - Williams Center MPR, (MPR) and
- Safe Halloween - October 28th, Mason Hall
- Tie dye Cancer Awareness event - October 22nd, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. Williams Center Patio.

Have a wonderful weekend. I will connect with you again.

Very truly yours,

Dr. K

Stephen H. Kolison, Jr., Ph.D.

President and Professor

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