



MEMORANDUM

From: Mark B. Rosenberg, *President*,
and Larry Lunsford, *Vice President for Student Affairs*
To: Students, Faculty, Staff
Date: July 8, 2016
Subject: Reflections on recent, tragic events

Sadly, the violence continues. These tragedies – Orlando, Turkey, Bangladesh, Baton Rouge, Minnesota and Dallas – incite anger, hatred and fear in our local, national and international communities. But if we stand together, we can create a community that stands for diversity, freedom and safety for all people. That is our FIU. Diversity is our strength. Inclusion is our ideal.

We invite you to join us today in Graham Center 140 at 12:30 p.m., to hear words of encouragement, hope and how we can support each other at FIU. The program will also be simulcast to BBC's Panther Square in the Wolfe University Center. We were touched by the outpouring of support just three weeks ago at the Orlando memorial and on Wednesday evening at the Black Student Union vigil. We encourage your participation again in our program this afternoon.

In the words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality... I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word."

Our condolences go out to communities, families and victims affected by these senseless tragedies. We hope to see you this afternoon.