

From Office of the President <president@csustan.edu>
Subject A Message on the Events at our Nation's Capitol
Date Jan 8, 2021 at 2:17 PM (GMT-07:00) America/Los Angeles



January 8, 2021

Dear Campus Community,

I know many of you share our deep pride and core belief in the power and beauty of our American democracy and our nation's ability to express a diversity of opinions while also respecting the principles of our democratic process, and in this case, the peaceful transition of power for our U.S. president.

We all witnessed with shock and disbelief the outrageous events at the U.S. Capitol Building and the tragic aftermath of violence and loss of life in Washington D.C. This level of violence and contemptible disrespect for our democratic process is deeply appalling and troubling and must be condemned as a threat to our core ideals of an American democracy. We must stand up, vigorously support and reaffirm our democratic processes in the face of insurrection.

As we engage in moving forward as a unified nation and as a campus, I want to underscore the critical and foundational principles of how universities strive to help educate, inform and empower students and our communities to always exercise and hone their lifelong critical thinking skills, data-informed understanding and analyses of the world, and to balance multiple understandings in light of their own and others' lived experiences and other contexts. We strive to harness knowledge to promote positive change in our complex world.

There is no question that these events also have occurred during a historic period of enormous strife with the proliferation of the coronavirus pandemic, and we are profoundly feeling the magnitude of the crisis. We urge students that if you need help, please seek it. Campus resources are available. Students may reach out to [Student Health Center](#), [Psychological Counseling Services](#) and [StanCares](#). Faculty and staff can access free, confidential online and counseling resources through the [Employee Assistance Program](#).

Please let us join together to honor and protect our American democracy as we continue to seek and promote peaceful, meaningful and inclusive dialogue in our communities and our nation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Ellen Junn
President