Open Letter to the SLU Community: In Opposition to Hate and Hate Crimes

On Monday, November 14, 2016, the FBI released its 2015 report on hate crimes. The statistics included crimes based on race, ethnicity, ancestry, gender (identity and expression), sexuality, religion, and ability. They identified "5,818 single-bias incidents that involved 6,837 offenses, 7,121 victims, and 5,475 known offenders." These crimes did not include the "32 multiple-bias incidents...[that] involved 48 offenses, 52 victims, and 18 known offenders." We shudder to think what the hate crimes statistics will be for 2016. After all, each one of these numbers represents a person, a human being who is loved and needed by family and friends like other human beings.

Since the beginning of this November there has been an uptick in these bias incidents, including a particularly disturbing one involving a University of Oklahoma student and first-year African American students at the University of Pennsylvania.

In any democratic process or structure, disagreement across a wide variety of ideologies and issues comes as no surprise. Civil disagreement, in fact, is necessary to the health of democracy. There exists no case, however, when the expression of hate — physical, verbal or virtual — because of difference is justified. Difference of ideology, race, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, sexuality, veteran status, religion, and ability is no cause for hate.

We, the undersigned members of the Saint Louis University community, stand today in strong opposition to hate and hate crimes. And we stand in strong opposition to the fear that fuels hate. We stand firm against sexism and misogyny. We stand firm against anti-Semitism. We stand firm against Islamophobia. We stand firm against homophobia. We stand firm against xenophobia. We stand firm against any phobia or -ism that promotes hate and division.

We encourage every member of our community to join us. We encourage every member of our community to rise to the challenge of working for political, ideological and social goals in a way that moves us closer, with all of our differences, to a beloved community in which hate has no place.

Erin Adams
Emily Adamson
MaryPat Admire
Jenny Agnew
Fatma Ahmed
Maariya Ahmed
Collins O. Airdhienbuwa
Ahmad Al dalawi
Saheer Alam
Amanda Albert

Stewart Albert
Lisa Alderson
Philip Alderson
Beccy Aldrich
Aleidra Allen
Jittaun Allen
Martha Allen
Logan Allgood
Yvonne Almore
Zainab Alramadhan

Scott Amendola
Eric Anderson
Sheri Anderson
Betsy Angeli
Emily Anstoetter
Heidi Ardizzone
Lauren Arend
Michael Ariel
Eric Armbrrecht
Amelia Arnold
Gretchen Arnold
Josh Arthur
Rachel Asare
Christine Ascencio
Ashley Asel
Ibrahim Atiq
Rajeev Aurora
Lejla Avdic
Asiye Aziz Zanjani
Ahmed Baig
Sharon Baird
Tracey Baird
Elizabeth Baker
Kira Hudson Banks
Kimberly Baptist
Debbie Barbeau
Michael Barber
Kate Barbier
Jon Baris
Sara Barnett
Karen Barney
Ellen Barnidge
Lori Baron
Jessica Barreca
Bert Barry
Anneke Bart
Carole Baskin
Alden Bass
Jacqueline Batanian
Sarah Bauer
Sarah Bauer
Sara Bauman
Seth Bauman
Maddie Baumgart
Amy Bautz
Karen Baxter
Melisa Beardslee
Anna Beasley
Jesus Becerra
Chandler Beck
M Colleen Beckemeyer
Jane Beckerle
Heather Bednarek
Carol Beebel
Robert Belshe, MD
Stephen Belt
Andrew Bennett
Debbie Bennett
Marsha Bennett
Rachel Bergholdt
Scott Berman
Clayton Berry
Lisa Bertschinger
Lisa Bertschinger
Joe Besser
Deepika Bhatla
Sweta Bhoopatiraju
John Bireley
Douglas Blackall
Amelia Blanton Hibner
J. Gary Bledsoe
Angie Blumberg
Russell Blyth
Douglas Boin
Bridget Boland
Kenny Bollwerk
Larry Bommarito
Jim Bone
Melissa Bonney
Laurel Boone, J.D.
Craig Boyd
Stephen Braddock
Ali Bradley
Rachael Bradshaw
Caslyn Brandes
Elena Bray Speth
Matthew Breeden
Simone Bregni
Barth Breneman
Ella Brennan
Kate Brennan
Jocelyn Brennan Witzel
Amy Breuer
Geoffrey Brewer
Nancy Brickhouse
Martin Brief
David Brinker
Heather Brock
Donna Brooks
Nic Brooksher
Matt Broom
Dorian Brown
Jeffrey Brown
Julie Brown
Susan J. Brown
Sydney Brown
Cash Browning
Alexis Bruce-Staudt
Anna Brueggemann
Zachary Buchheit
Richard E. Buckley
Jennifer Buehler
Judi Buncher
Desmond Bunnell
Brianne Burcke
Donna Burds
Melissa Burgess
Flannery Burke
Maya Burnett
Andrea Burr
Cherie Burroughs
Cindy Bush
Cindy Bush
Laurel Button
Dolores Byrnes
P. Herbert Caldwell
Maggie Callon
Robert Cambridge
Melinda Carlson
Ellen Carnaghan
Jill Carnaghi
Theresa Carr
Vincent Casaregola
Chris Casey
Lucille Cashion
Stephen Casmier
Erin Chambers
Sue Chaw szczewski
Amber Chesnut
Smadar Chezrony
Juliana Chow
Cara Christianell
Matthew Christian
Christine Christoffel
Danielle Christopher
Bianca Chukwueke
Maria Chushak
Jessica Ciccone
Kennedy Claire
Eddie Clark
Sean Cochran
Sarah Coffin
Sarah Coffin
Alexandra Cogdill
Robert Cole
Paul Coleman
Tiffany Coleman
Richard Colignon
Christopher Collins
Kristy Collins
Gregory Comer
Alberta Concialdi
Brittany Conners
Mary Connick
Julie Conway
Mary Cook
Amy Cooper
Amy Cooper
D. C. Cooper
Higher purpose. Greater good.
Duncan Cooper
Shannon Cooper-Sadlo
Lizzie Corcoran
Emily Corey
Adrienne Courtois
Patrick Cousins
Ellen Cox
Robert Cropf
Maya Crowe-Barnes
Sharyl Cruz
Patrick Cuba
Alexander Cuenca
Cory Cullen
Claire Cunningham
Jami Curley
Alex Curoe
Matt Cushman
Emily Cybulla
Austin Dalrymple
Carol Daner
Beesan Daoud
Orilla Darden
Khannie Dastgah
Harrison Davis
Lauren Davis
Lindsay Davis
Ingh Davis-Crawford
Jarrett Dawson
Tony DeCesare
Tony DeCesare
Bretton DeLaria
Tatyana’s Demidovich
Robert Dettling
Stephen Deves
Adrian Di Bisceglie
Kelly Dineen
Greg Divers
Vijai Dixit
Jennifer Dizes
Edward Domain
Katy Beth Doman
Raquel Dominguez
Nancy Donjon
Deborah Douglas
Eunice Douglas
Brian Downes
Colleen Doyle
Mary Drexl
Alexa Drouin
Edgar Duarte
Kaitlin Duffner
Christopher Duncan
Riley Dunn
Patricia Eastman
William Ebel
Jaimie Ebert
Kayla Eckardt
Ashley Eckhardt
Kari Elbe
Tyna Elbe
Katie Eliot
Charlie Elliott
Andrew Ema
Jame Emery
John Encarnacion
ELizabeth Engel, MD
Cynthia Enghauser
Tommy English
Monica Eppinger
Janel Esker
Mark Evans
Ruth Evans
Maleah Fallahi
Xiaofeng Fan
Susan Fanale
Lauren Farley
Cameron Fearn
Kevin Feitz
Leanna Fenneberg
peg fetter
Kellisa Lyn Fiala
Amy Ficklen
JoAnn Filla-Taylor
Michael Findlay
Melissa Fink
Dan Finucane
Ashley Firle
Jonathan Fisher
Peggy Fisher
Melissa Fitzgerald
Alicia Flach
Cathleen Fleck
Mary Flick
Natalie Floeh
Robert Flood
Cara Flynn
Jacqueline Forbes
Brittany Ford
Paola Fornaris
James Michael Fortney
Aimee Foster
Terri L. Foster
Jeffrey Fowler
Cynthia Francis
Laura Franklin
Maggie French
Sharon Frey
Ilana Friedman
John Fu
Laife Fulk
Susan Gale
Sandy Gambill
Christina Garcia
Beth Gardner
Annie Garner
Jason Garreter
Elizabeth Garreau
Jeremy Garrett
Cassandra Garth
Robert Garthe
Peter Garvin
Sandra Gault
Philip Gavitt
Laura Geiser
Julia Gerwe
Jeffrey Gfeller
Conner Gibson
LaShone Gibson
Gail Gilbert
Keon L. Gilbert
Kathleen Gillespie
Benjamin Girard
Lori Glover
Jeff Godowski
Emily Goek
Jay Goff
Amanda Goldsmith
Michael Goldwasser
Maddie Gomez
Lindsay Gontermann
Eva Gonzales
Hope Goodin
Dazzalee Goodwin
Willie Gore
Anu Gorukanti
Mary Gould
Mary Gould
Barb Gradala
Irene Graham
Patrick Graney-Dolan
Tammy Grant
Myrinda Grantham
Tina Gray
Sandi Greaves
John Greco
Rob Green
Rachel Greenwald
Smith
Lynne Griffin
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jawara Sanford</th>
<th>Megan Singleton</th>
<th>Mason Switzer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tracy Santhuff</td>
<td>Kristen Sitze</td>
<td>Sana Syed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Santiago</td>
<td>Greg Sitze</td>
<td>Raymond Tait</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Sapienza</td>
<td>Rita Skiba</td>
<td>Matthew Taitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laytonya Sayles</td>
<td>Sarah Skield-Hanlin</td>
<td>Yun Tan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darcy Scharff</td>
<td>Stuart Slavin</td>
<td>Lei Tang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Scharringhausen</td>
<td>Hannah Small</td>
<td>Aline Tanios</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Scheipeter</td>
<td>Alice Smith</td>
<td>Valerie Tanner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adele Schenk</td>
<td>Andrew Smith</td>
<td>Ting Tao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Scherliss</td>
<td>Brandon Smith</td>
<td>Jason Tapp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeff Scherrer</td>
<td>Caitlin Smith</td>
<td>Michael Tarkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeremy Schierhoff</td>
<td>Daniel Smith</td>
<td>Erline Tatgegrain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annette Schiller</td>
<td>F. Ann Smith</td>
<td>John Tavis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgan Schiller</td>
<td>Jonathan C. Smith</td>
<td>Danielle Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Schmidt</td>
<td>Jovan Smith</td>
<td>Jade Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Schmidt</td>
<td>Ben Smyth</td>
<td>Lisa Sonia Taylor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Schmieder</td>
<td>Karen Smyth</td>
<td>Laura Tedesco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joanne Schneider</td>
<td>Jackie Snyder</td>
<td>Ann Tettamble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Schneider</td>
<td>Kurtis Sobush</td>
<td>Brad Tharpe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin E. Schneider</td>
<td>Bryan Sokol</td>
<td>Kathleen Thatcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Schollmeyer</td>
<td>Harvey Solomon MD</td>
<td>Zack Thatcher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Schuette</td>
<td>Erik Solorio</td>
<td>Caitlyn Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Schuler</td>
<td>Mary Sommers</td>
<td>Ed Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanie Schwartz</td>
<td>Ariana Song</td>
<td>Renee Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Schwendeman</td>
<td>Hong Song</td>
<td>Scott Thomas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karla Scott</td>
<td>Laurie Sparr</td>
<td>Nicole Thompson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott</td>
<td>Vicky Spies</td>
<td>Brenna Tilkes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jessica Seavers</td>
<td>Carly Spurlock</td>
<td>Steve Tinge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Sebert Kuhlmann</td>
<td>Liz St.Lawrence</td>
<td>Tim Toennies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Seiler</td>
<td>Arathi Srikanata</td>
<td>Sherida Tollefsen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Seitz</td>
<td>Liz St. Lawrence</td>
<td>Terry Tomazic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen Semmler</td>
<td>Kent Staley</td>
<td>Christina Traber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Sensar</td>
<td>Angel Stallings</td>
<td>Duanetta Turner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enbal Shacham</td>
<td>Katie Stamatakis</td>
<td>Juanetta Turner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Shagavah</td>
<td>Maya Stanley</td>
<td>Troy Turnipseed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Shaw</td>
<td>Jennifer Steck</td>
<td>Kelly Tyler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umar Sheikh</td>
<td>Amber Stefanski</td>
<td>LeAnn Upton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Sherer</td>
<td>Mark Steinlage, Jr.</td>
<td>Joya Uraizee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kris Sherman</td>
<td>Cindy Stevens</td>
<td>Joya Uraizee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Shoemaker</td>
<td>Danielle Stevens</td>
<td>Emmanuel Uwalaka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Sholl</td>
<td>Jes Stevens</td>
<td>Marah Van Diest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabbi Mark Shook</td>
<td>Sue Stevens</td>
<td>Margaret Veale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valerie Shor Perrier</td>
<td>John Stiles</td>
<td>Brandon Verhoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Shorey</td>
<td>Justin Stoeckle</td>
<td>Tonya Vernon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurie Shornick</td>
<td>Marya Strand</td>
<td>Justin Vilbig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel Shreve</td>
<td>Michele Streb</td>
<td>Melissa Villars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Shrewsbury</td>
<td>Debi Striler</td>
<td>Heather Vincent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Sieben</td>
<td>Ellie Stueckroth</td>
<td>Paul Vita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kris Siebert</td>
<td>Donald Stump</td>
<td>Emily Vogl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynda Signorino</td>
<td>Eleonore Stump</td>
<td>Dennis Wacker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn Simons</td>
<td>Chelsea Sullivan</td>
<td>Katrina Wade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Simpson</td>
<td>Matthew Sullivan</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Waehner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerry Singer</td>
<td>Jacob Surratt</td>
<td>Andrew Wagner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Maria Walawender
Meredith Walker
Cara Wallace
Mariann Wallenberg
Joseph Walline
Sarah Walsh
Karissa Walton
Regina Walton
Regina Walton
Karen Wamhoff
Chezna Warner
Daniel Warren
Maggie Waters
Katherine Weathers
Peg Weathers
Crystal Weaver
Terri Weaver
Marcia Weis
Edward (Ted) Weiss
Penny Weiss
Joe Weixlmann
John R. Welch
Leslie Wells
Andrew Wells Jr
Jason Werner
Cheri West
Virginia Westermeyer
Caitlyn Westfall
Norman White
Helen Whitley
Barbara Whitman
Cari Wickliffe
Maureen Wikete Lee
Elaina Wiles
Jason Wilhite
Jenny Wilkerson
Doug Williams
Keith Williams
Shontae Williams
Valorie Wilmoth
Bob Wilmott
Dean Wilson
Debra Wilson
Lauren Wilson
Mardell Wilson
Maura Wilson
Patricia Wilson
Samantha Wilson
Fred Winkler
Tobias Winright
Christopher Winston
Cyn Wise
Cynthia Witherspoon
Meme Wolff
Michael Wolff
Sara Rae Womack
Alexandra Wood
Robert Wood
Rebecca Wood, Ph.D.
Brian Woods
Brendan Wright
Leana Wu
Alex Wulff
Beth-Anne Yakubu
Mee-Ngan Yap
Dell Yates
Matthew Yates
Jeanne Young
Kovy Young
David Young
Zohaib Zahir
Sally Zetzman
Nan Zhao
Siyu Zhao
Yiwei Zhao
Lisa Zoia
Siliya Zustiak