

# A Message to Our Community

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The U.S. elections were a very difficult exercise in democracy laying bare deep divisions within the country. I echo President Fitts' message to the Tulane community: "Our job as a university community is to seek to understand. We must engage with each other in and out of the classroom, and we will have many opportunities in the days to come to process where we are as a nation."

The School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine stands behind our "global commitment to public health." We believe in a world without borders because, after all, the desire for health and well-being is universal and is not altered by race, ethnicity, nationality, socio-economic status, sexual identity, or geographical location. That remains true today.

Our country will more than ever need public health professionals to respond to health needs and health crises. Our students will graduate and go on to advocate for policies that will create a safer, healthier, more compassionate, open, and fairer world.

As President Fitts reminded us, [CAPS](#) is prepared to welcome any student who is in crisis on a walk-in basis. Immediate crisis counseling is also available to students 24/7 through The Line at 504-264-6074. For employees, the [Employee Assistance Program](#) is available for counseling and [Workforce Management](#) may also have other resources to share.

Pierre Buekens, MD



W.H. Watkins Professor and Dean  
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