

From: Secuban, Gigi
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 10:24 AM
To: Gonzalez-Vallejo, Claudia
Cc: Nellis, M.Duane; Kirksey, Jennifer
Subject: Re: Letter concerning Center LGBT

Hi Claudia,

Thank you for sharing your concerns. First, I want to express my continued, unwavering commitment to all areas of diversity and inclusion at Ohio University. I am grateful for the work that delfin accomplished as the LGBT center director, and I wish them the best in their endeavors. I am not able to comment on personnel matters, but please know that this decision was not entered or communicated lightly.

As the leader of Ohio University's office for diversity and inclusion, I am committed to working with my colleagues across the University to promote and sustain a campus environment that is safe and respectful for all members of our community, including those of all gender identities and expressions. The rights of all individuals, including LGBTQ+ people and all underrepresented groups, are fundamental to a climate of inclusiveness that affords everyone access to a safe, welcoming, and inclusive educational environment and workplace.

Since beginning my leadership role at OHIO this past June, I have already made several investments in the University's diversity and inclusion efforts, including increasing the staffing levels and budget for several units, including two new full-time staff resources for the LGBT center. I am also working with the University to explore a larger space for the center.

As we enter spring semester, the LGBT center will remain open, and normal operations will continue. I will be naming an interim director as soon as possible, and we will be conducting a national search for an LGBT center director this spring. We want to be nationally recognized for our diversity and inclusion efforts, and the LGBT center is central to our plans for growth.

To ensure that our students' needs are being met throughout this transition, I have met with and asked members of the Diversity and Inclusion team last week to help fill in at the LBGT Center during this week as we formalize the transition plan. I have also arranged to have Counseling and Psychological Services staff available in the Center on the first day of spring classes and counselors will be available at CPS in Hudson Hall for any students who may be in need of their services.

In closing, I want to reaffirm diversity and inclusion as Ohio University's top priority. As the LGBT center enters its next era, we have a real opportunity to take its programming to the next level. I appreciate your continued support of the center and its students.

-gigi:)

Dr. Gigi Secuban
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Dear Dr. Secuban,

We write to express our concern, as members of Ohio University and the Latino Caucus, regarding the recent dismissal of two members of our community. We are saddened because to our knowledge, they were individuals who worked with passion to advance the goals of diversity. In particular, Mr. bautista's advocacy, support and dedication to our students of many backgrounds will be greatly missed. As the recent Post publication showed, student's expressed immense sadness at the departure of a beloved leader. We understand that new administrations often take new directions; however, it is difficult to understand when the directions are not clearly expressed to the communities served, and decisions made with haste end up hurting individuals at many levels.

Sincerely,

Claudia González-Vallejo, Professor Psychology
Dina Lopez, Professor Geological Sciences
Arthur Hughes, Associate Professor Modern Languages
Michael Rodriguez, Director Of Production Services & Student Development WOUB
Sally Delgado, Curator Of Education Kennedy Museum of Arts
Amado Lascar, Associate Professor Modern Languages
Emilia Alonso-Sameño, Professor Modern Languages
Daniel Torres, Professor Modern Languages
Kimberly Rios, Associate Professor Psychology