"We are proud of our students for planning and leading an inspiring and peaceful rally Monday in support of their peers at Mizzou and against racism. Another group of students rallied the next day in support of our students from the Middle East. Both of these events speak directly to the importance of free speech in a safe environment on a university campus. These were both thoughtful, well-organized events that further speak to the mission and values of this university as a land-grant institution committed to access, opportunity and diversity.

Our community becomes stronger when we listen and learn from one another's experience. That some have chosen to denigrate these events on social media is disappointing, but it also illustrates why commitments to free speech, diversity and education are so important." (Tony Frank)