Dear members of the Lindenwood campus community,

Over the past weekend, an invitation was extended informally to faculty, staff, and students to attend a town hall meeting called **Love and Unity**. This event is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Thursday, November 17, 2016, in the Anheuser-Busch Leadership Room located in the Spellmann Center to reinforce the university's commitment toward diversity, equity, and inclusion and creating a supportive environment for all faculty, staff, and students.

This program is open to the Lindenwood University community, based on a recommendation from our Faculty Council's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee; the work of the committee is also supported by the Lindenwood Student Government Association and the Staff Council. The Belleville campus president and the Lindenwood system president recently created the President's Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, including faculty, staff, and students. The first meeting was held on Wednesday, November 2, 2016, at the Old Post Office in Downtown St. Louis.

Senior leadership on the Belleville and St. Charles campuses look forward to continued dialogue with this advisory committee and the faculty council, staff council, and student government.

Lindenwood's mission statement articulates the importance of the development of the whole person–an educated, responsible citizen of a global community. The university is committed to supporting academic freedom, cultural enrichment, ethical lifestyles, and values that include the worth and integrity of

the individual, the obligations and privileges of citizenship, and the primacy of the truth.

Soon, many of us will have the opportunity to spend time with family during the Thanksgiving holiday and be reminded of its importance, including your Lindenwood family.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Shonrock, Ph.D.

President, Lindenwood System

Brett Barger, Ed.D.

Campus President, Belleville