

From: Jihad Levermore [REDACTED]
Date: Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 10:10 PM
To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: A message from the Department of Theatre DEI Committee

Oh, just sent this email to Steve personally. Meant to reply all :)

Grow up. Full offense. There are people actively trying to make this department better, I don't get why your'e resisting that. If you didn't like/understand the email then you could have spoken to someone privately. But instead of doing that and trying to learn you decided to chalk it all up to sensitivity. Read a book. Talk to people. Gain some perspective. You're far too old to be behaving this way.

Also, please do not respond to this email because I do not care. I repeat, **I do not care.**

From: Dr. Robert Earnest [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 18, 2021 9:46:50 PM

Subject: Re: A message from the Department of Theatre DEI Committee

Sorry but I dont think its a big deal. Im just sad people get their feelings hurt so easily. And they are going into Theatre?

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From: Susan Fink [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, September 18, 2021 11:00:49 AM

Subject: Re: A message from the Department of Theatre DEI Committee

Thank you Dory, and all of the DEI committee, for this thoughtful communication.

I personally want to apologize for my THOUGHTLESS AND CARELESS actions. I was in that room helping to make that list. This was in response to one AA student's feeling that there were POC in the department that she did not know. She wanted to know them. I asked whether people who identified as BiPOC ever got together as a group—for social connection, for strategies, for support. So we made the list. THEN STUPIDLY left the studio without erasing the board, without considering what it would mean when folks walked into that room and saw that list without context.

I can't apologize enough. I want to connect with each and every human who saw that list and were outraged, hurt, embarrassed, or felt singled-out, so that I can look you in the eye and ask for forgiveness. No matter the good intention behind out actions—I still want you to know I'm an idiot and I am sorry.

Yours,

Dr. Susan Finque

Artist-in-Residence

Department of Theatre, Coastal Carolina University

"Let's keep the drama on the stage, Mrs. Worthington."

From: "Eric M. Hall" <[REDACTED]>

Date: Friday, September 17, 2021 at 5:05 PM

To: [REDACTED]



Subject: A message from the Department of Theatre DEI Committee

The Department of Theatre Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee have been informed of an incident that has caused harm and confusion in our community.

To be transparent, there was a list of students on the whiteboard in a studio downstairs. This list contained the names of theatre students that identify with the BIPOC community. After discussion with faculty and students involved, we acknowledge that this list without context can affect those on the list in a dehumanizing and hurtful way. We believe it is important to inform the student body that the intent behind the list was as a resource for newer students who are looking to be in community with other BIPOC students.

This in no way undermines the feelings that any of you feel about this incident. The faculty and students involved as well as the Theatre Department as a whole are deeply sorry to anyone who was affected by this incident. It should have never happened and the DEI committee will be discussing with faculty and students the gravity of the situation and how to handle these requests in the future.

If you ever feel that there is a need not being met in the community that aligns with the mission of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee, please come and speak with us. If you have further concerns regarding this incident, please feel free to contact us:

- Dory Sibley: [Redacted]
- Kevin Ferguson: [Redacted]
- M-A Blizzard: [Redacted]

We hope you have a wonderful weekend and we wish you joy and rest.

With gratitude,

The Department of Theatre DEI Committee

www.coastal.edu/theatre

Land Acknowledgement | As an institution that expresses the responsibility to be the role model in assuring fair and honest treatment with whom it interacts and sustainable stewardship of resources entrusted to it, we recognize the importance of acknowledging the original inhabitants of the land on which we reside. Coastal Carolina University is located on the ancestral land of the Waccamaw Indian People and other American Indian Nations. Through the operations of CCU, we honor and express our gratitude to the ancestors, current peoples and future generations to come.

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