



From the Office of the President

A Message from Dr. Stein

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

As I look to the summit of our campus this week, I am reminded of the statement, “Bridges don’t fall from the sky; we have to build them,” written by Eboo Patel, Founder and President of Interfaith America.

American flags, both on Cannon Hill and across the state, are flying at half-staff to mourn the devastating loss of innocent lives in Israel and Gaza.

While highly complicated issues, historical contexts, and religious differences underscore the war that began in the Middle East this weekend, we unequivocally condemn the senseless and horrific acts of terrorism that started this war and have now led to the killing of innocent Israelis and Palestinians.

The Mary Baldwin community has always believed in the transformative power of education to foster understanding, bridge divides, and promote peace. Our values of diversity, inclusion, and respect for all mean we must seek to understand the experiences and perspectives of others, recognizing the profound impact these conflicts have on individuals and communities. It is incumbent on each of us to educate ourselves and talk with others about this violence.

Events and Resources

In an effort to support learning and dialogue, University Chaplain Katie Low is hosting a Holy Land Storytelling event at 7 p.m. on Oct. 19 in The Nuthouse, which will provide an opportunity for the university community to come together during this tragedy. In the coming days, we will organize an event to foster dialogue, raise awareness, and promote understanding of the current conflict in the Middle East.

Seek support if you need it from our counseling professionals on campus or through [TimelyCare](#). Faculty and staff can turn to the [Employee Assistance Plan](#) for counseling services. Additionally, please [report any incidents of bias](#) or discrimination that you witness or experience.

Each of us must work to elevate our engagement and understanding, broaden our perspectives, and build bridges of understanding on campus and in communities around the globe.

Dr. Jeff Stein

President

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