

March 3, 2017

Dear Maxwell Community,

In the weeks since President Trump's controversial Executive Order on immigration, I have had the great privilege of hearing from many alumni, students, faculty, staff, donors, and partners. I am grateful for the respectful and productive manner in which they have expressed their diverse opinions and concerns, and raised questions about what the School believes and can do. I have reached out to various constituencies, especially our admitted international students, to assure them of their safety and share with them the opportunities that the Maxwell School has to offer them.

The Athenian Oath outside the Maxwell Auditorium is a revered statement, the unofficial creed of the School, and more than a symbol of our commitment to public service. The Oath reminds us of our responsibilities as citizens, and at Maxwell we are global citizens. Being global citizens means we must continue to work tirelessly to fight against intolerance and discrimination, and to end activities that are dehumanizing to others and leave our most vulnerable uncertain about their future.

Our greatest opportunity and responsibility is to use the intellectual assets and activities of all involved at the Maxwell School, including our alumni, donors, and supporters, to develop and promote research and education that improves the lives of all peoples and societies, here in the United States and beyond our borders. Indeed, we must not remain silent or stand on the sidelines. Rather, we must use our intellectual resources to defend all of our democratic values and constitutional rights and ensure our fidelity to pluralism.

Regardless of what the next few months or the next few years hold, the Maxwell community will use its voice to build bridges and understanding, to engage in dialogue and exchange, to offer a safe space for those who feel invisible, vulnerable and marginalized, and to do so with respect and integrity. We will remain dedicated to international engagement and the vast benefits that flow from a broad commitment to diversity and inclusion.

It is time for our School of Citizenship to lead and to do so boldly. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement of the Maxwell School.



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