

Dear Graduate Student Community and members of Texas Christian University,

As people, scholars, and Horned Frogs, the Graduate Student Senate commits to combating inequities on campus and abroad while addressing the systemic racism that has afflicted our country for far too long.

We know that many of you in our community feel pain, anxiety, rage, and hopelessness right now, and there are not enough words to say that would comfort individuals during this time of trauma. The horrific murders of Rayshard Brooks and George Floyd at the hands of police were the latest in a long history of violence and injustice to Black people in America. Slavery, Jim Crow, segregation, unjust policing and sentencing, and voter suppression are just a few examples from the litany of harm. The continuance of these injustices should not come as a surprise – Black leaders have long spoken out against them and been assassinated, silenced, and abused because of it.

Progress does not come without discomfort and conflict. We support the patriotic and heroic actions of protesters demanding justice, often putting their bodies and health on the line. We commit to anti-racist practice and fight for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color across campus. We will work with and challenge the university to support students of color and take ownership of an unwelcoming environment for many individuals.

## **| It is time to make a change.**

Change the racial dynamics at TCU. Change the racist practices at TCU. Challenge white supremacy at TCU.

We further challenge all of our GSS members, and graduate students publicly commit to anti-racist action. In the coming days, we will create and distribute educational materials to arm our members in this pursuit. We will strive to infuse anti-racism into all of our activities as a Graduate Student Senate.

In defense of anti-racism, we must accentuate our efforts to be champions within our communities and unite alongside the Black community. Join us in contributing to the fight for a sustainable world, affirming **Black. Lives. Matter.**

Members of the Graduate Student Senate stand in solidarity with local and national calls for racial justice and racial equity. We will devote our focus to root out bigotry and anti-Black agendas on our campus.

The GSS community welcomes your feedback. Please feel free to share your thoughts, concerns, or recommendations with us at [gss@tcu.edu](mailto:gss@tcu.edu). If you need assistance with identifying your Graduate Student Senate Officer, please feel free to contact us at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Members of the Graduate Student Senate  
*June 2020*