November 13, 2019

Dear Iowa State Community,

Early this morning before 1 a.m., Iowa State University Police were alerted to a threat of physical violence made toward three of our students. The threat was made on a Reddit stream (social media forum) and targeted students who participated in a Land Acknowledgement statement made at the Students Against Racism meeting on November 7, 2019.

First and foremost, our concern is the safety and well-being of the students who were targeted. Iowa State Police have reached out and talked to two of the students. They are still working to identify and contact the third student. The university will do everything possible to ensure their safety.

Secondly, we want the Iowa State community to know that threats of physical violence are illegal and deplorable. Iowa State Police are investigating the threat, including contacting Reddit to determine if the person who posted the threat can be identified so that they can be held responsible to the fullest extent of the law.

If you have been threatened or are aware of someone who is threatening harm to someone else, call 911 immediately. If you have any information about this specific incident please contact Iowa State Police at 515-294-4428.

We urge everyone to remain vigilant with respect to personal safety and the safety of our friends and Iowa State community members. Please look out for each other and never hesitate to contact police if you feel unsafe. If you need additional emotional support, please access the following resources:

Student Counseling Services, 515-294-5056
Student Assistance, 515-294-1020
Thielen Student Health Center, 515-294-5801
Crisis Text Line, text “ISU” to 741741 (available 24/7)

Wendy Wintersteen
President

Michael Newton
Associate Vice President and Chief of Police