

LEAD WITH EAST BALTIMORE

Standing in Solidary Against Inequality

On Friday, Nov. 13, Johns Hopkins University students in the schools of medicine, nursing and public health gathered on the East Baltimore campus to show their solidarity with University of Missouri students and others across the nation who have expressed concerns about racial inequality.

In a statement, the nursing, public health and medical students said:

“We, students in the health professions at Johns Hopkins, stand in solidarity with black students and their fellow students of color at the University of Missouri, Yale University and universities throughout the nation as they raise their voices against institutional violence and racism. As future health professionals invested in the well-being of people of color, we recognize that systemic violence and racial injustice damage the health of individuals and communities. We understand that racism is a public health concern and are committed to serving as allies and activists in the movement for racial justice in our communities and our chosen professions.

“Inspired by their courage and emboldened by their resilience, we stand in love, support and admiration of black students at the University of Missouri and across the country.”

Paul Rothman, dean of the medical faculty and CEO of Johns Hopkins Medicine, who has expressed a commitment to creating environments where diversity and inclusion are respected as integral components of Johns Hopkins’ learning culture, will meet with medical student groups to gain a greater understanding of their issues.

James Page, vice president of diversity and inclusion for Johns Hopkins Medicine, and Namandje Bumpus, associate dean for institutional and student equity, were present to listen to the students who met at the Anne and Mike Armstrong Medical Education Building. They will also work with leaders and student groups to develop a plan to address their concerns, discuss ongoing practical and sustainable solutions, and provide support and resources.

Also on Friday afternoon, inspired by their peers at “Mizzou” and similar efforts across the country, Johns Hopkins University students held a protest on the Homewood campus to communicate the need to intensify efforts toward racial equality and to strengthen the climate and culture of diversity and inclusion at Johns Hopkins.

In a message emailed to university students and employees Friday afternoon, Johns Hopkins University President Ronald Daniels said he accepted a list of demands from the group. He has agreed to meet with the students and university leaders in an open forum on Nov. 30, and said he plans to communicate more regularly about ongoing efforts and initiatives to improve the culture and climate.

Staff or faculty members, residents, postdocs and students that need to talk about any challenges they are having as a members of the Johns Hopkins community should reach out to their supervisors.

You can read more about the university protest and see photos on the Hub and in the Nov. 13 *Baltimore Sun*.

