

SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY



Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson, President

Dear Spartan Community,

As we reflect on the approaching one-year anniversary of the tragic attack on Israel and the ongoing devastation in Gaza and throughout the region, our university community feels the magnitude of the pain. The ravages of war and the staggering loss of innocent lives continue to impact many individuals here at San José State University and around the world.

At San José State, we are providing trauma-informed support centered on understanding and empathy. Recognizing the distinct breadth and depth of experiences in our community, we remain focused on ensuring that our campus is a place where all students, faculty, and staff feel heard, respected, and cared for. We encourage open dialogue, and also acknowledge that avoidance of the conflict and focusing on healing is vital to some community members' health and wellbeing.

To support students impacted, [ODEI's Intergroup Dialogue Program](#) has organized two events on campus, offering spaces for reflection, dialogue, and healing. These events include:

- [Confronting Prejudice: Exploring Antisemitism and Islamophobia](#), Monday, October 14, 2024, 4:00pm-6:00pm, Location to be announced
- [Bridging Perspectives: Understanding the Israel-Palestine Conflict](#), Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 4:00pm-6:00pm, Location to be announced

These spaces are intended for students only. [Click here to learn more about the dialogue series or to register for either or both of the dialogues.](#) Additional events geared towards faculty and staff are forthcoming.

Additionally, if you or someone you know needs support, please reach out to our Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) for confidential counseling, or explore other resources through our Student Wellness Center. More information about these resources can be found [here](#). Additionally, for anyone who feels like they have experienced discrimination or harassment, we encourage you to report your experiences to our [Title IX and Equal Opportunity office](#), where university staff are available to meet with you to discuss your options, including assessing supportive measures.

As we take this time for reflection and remembrance, it is important that our campus remains a place where all voices can be heard and respected. Our [Future of Humanity and Civic Engagement](#) initiative will enable us to meet this moment by making our campus a space for vigorous, open dialogue and free speech, while ensuring that our campus remains a peaceful space for reflection, learning, and healing. You can learn more about our guidelines and their role in supporting respectful discourse [here](#).

SJSU is an international community and we will continue to navigate the complexities of these challenging times together to strengthen a compassionate and inclusive campus community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Cynthia Teniente-Matson
President
(She/Her/Ella)

