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## UA3/9/7 Message

WKU President's Office - Ransdell

WKU Philosophy & Religion

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Fellow Faculty and Staff:

I have had numerous faculty and staff express sentiments to me in recent days which are similar to that which our faculty in Philosophy and Religion have posted.

I believe they speak for this intellectual community of scholars in expressing our shared support for all people who comprise our richly diverse campus family. Ours is a community which believes in love in any language.

Gary A. Ransdell



President Ransdell,

I just wanted you to know that the faculty and staff in our department have posted the following message to our Facebook page:

Given the anti-Muslim rhetoric that has risen to prominence in American political discourse in recent weeks, the faculty and staff of the Department of Philosophy and Religion want to make the following statement:

During this holiday season of love and peace, we want to express our appreciation for our Muslim brothers and sisters who are students, staff, and faculty at Western Kentucky University. We also want to express our appreciation for all our Muslim friends in Bowling Green. Our community is enriched by its diversity of religious beliefs, practices, and institutions. We are honored to be a part of a city and campus filled with openminded folks committed to an inclusive community.

We believed that as intellectual leaders and responsible citizens of our community, we had an obligation to speak out on this issue that pertains both to our academic work (Religious Studies) and our students, staff, and faculty.

Happy Holidays,

Eric Bain-Selbo

Dear colleagues and friends,

I am an Arabic instructor at WKU and I am a Muslim. I have met many great students and faculty that came to me to ask if I had any problem, and were concerned about me. and they say if I that ever happen from anyone, it's not American. I replied no, i have never had any problem living in this beautiful town for the past 15 years, wether as a student at WKU or now as an Instructor at WKU.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to live and work in this loving community, but especially thankful for such awesome and thoughtful students and faculty.

Thank you very much to the religion and phiylosophy department for your statement.

love and peace for all, and happy holidays my friends.

## Thank you,

Lhousseine Guerwane Instructor of Arabic Instructor of Spanish Department of Modern Languages Western Kentucky University