June 4, 2020

To Our Community:
The Work That Lies Ahead

We, at the Institute for Leadership and Social Impact, recognize that we can’t build a solid foundation of inclusive social impact without practicing the tenants of servant leadership and addressing systemic social injustice.

As our friends at the Center for Civic Innovation so humbly said: ‘we don’t have an answer.’ What we know is that it will take a collaborative and soul-searching approach to understand what this work should look like at Georgia Tech.

We are encouraged by President Cabrera’s words and humbled by the action that so many of our students, faculty, and staff has already taken by marching, standing in solidarity, and speaking out against injustice. We are grateful for the tireless efforts of our community partners, and many others, who have been doing this work for many years, and from whom we have so much more to learn.

We at ILSI can no longer be passive as injustice exists alongside our privilege. We must face how we actively, even if inadvertently, contribute to it. We want ILSI to be part of educating (ourselves and others) and changing the world we live in.

As we embark on the journey that lies ahead, we are committing our support to our students, faculty, staff, and partners in the community. We will mobilize our programming, scholarship, and resources to create inclusive social impact and to educate servant leaders equipped to tackle institutional racism, systemic inequality, and social injustice.

We look forward to engaging in the work that will accomplish the newly adapted mission of Georgia Tech: Improving the Human Condition. To that, we add, for ALL.

We close with a quote from the great American poet, Maya Angelou, and invite you to reflect on our collective work ahead:

‘History, despite its wrenching pain, cannot be unlived, but if faced with courage, need not be lived again.’

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