

From: CANR Grad CANR.Grad@anr.msu.edu Subject: CANR Dean's Update March 1, 2018

Date: March 1, 2018 at 3:58 PM

To:

Cc: Hendrick, Ronald hendric6@anr.msu.edu, Millenbah, Kelly millenba@anr.msu.edu, Gianiodis, Eileen gianiod1@anr.msu.edu

## News from the Dean's Desk



March 1, 2018

CANR Colleagues -

As the result of a lawsuit settlement, the National Policy Institute will hold an event at the MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education on March 5 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. During this time, Richard Spencer will speak on behalf of the National Policy Institute. His history of divisive speech is appalling, and I am disappointed that we were unable to stop this visit to campus.

I have heard from many of you who are upset by this. I agree, wholeheartedly, that our community rejects this group's divisive and racist messages, and remain committed to maintaining a diverse, equitable and inclusive campus.

His words are especially hurtful at this critical time when we are working to rebuild trust on our campus. Ensuring that people aren't left out or disadvantaged and respecting each other as human beings worthy of dignity are important leadership priorities for me.

While this event is taking place at a university building where many College of Agriculture and Natural Resources activities occur, it is NOT being hosted and/or sponsored by the college, or the university. The venue was chosen by the university to minimize the risk of violence and/or disruption to the main campus.

This event will take place during Spring Break when many MSU students will be off-campus. However, it does coincide with Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) Week – a time when many of our valued ANR stakeholders and friends are on campus.

Please be aware that the National Policy Institute event is NOT tied in any way to ANR Week.

I'd like to bring your attention to an event hosted by the Interfaith Clergy Association of Greater Lansing and East Lansing City Councilperson Aaron Stephens called a <u>Celebration of Diversity Festival</u>. Several community groups have decided to celebrate our diverse community through food, music, speakers and performances.

The event will take place on the same day and time as the National Policy Institute at All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

Sincerely,

Ron Hendrick Professor & Dean

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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STAY CONNECTED



College of Agriculture and Natural Resources | 102 Justin S. Morrill Hall of Agriculture, 446 West Circle Drive, East Lansing, MI 48824

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