

My Dear Friends,

Today we celebrate the life of Martin Luther King Jr. and reflect on his legacy which stands as an inspiration for our entire university. In his spirit of seeking a more just and upright society, we educate our students to lead lives of contribution so that all will benefit from their knowledge and leadership.

For this reason, our education throughout the university not only places a great emphasis on excellent academics but also on impactful clinical work. We educate our students in both word and deed to devote one's life towards raising others.

Our Parnes clinic at the Ferkauf School of Psychology treats an underserved population with quality care at little to no cost. Our care cafe at Wurzweiler provides community-based support through psychoeducational pop-up support 'cafes' throughout the New York metro area. And this year we inaugurated our new Perlmutter Center for Legal Justice at Cardozo Law which has already succeeded in its first efforts as clemency was granted to its client, Bruce Bryant, before the New Year.

As part of our systematic efforts to achieve a more just society, we are also identifying and bringing faculty members and leaders from danger areas to our university, including Professor Mariam Ahmady from Afghanistan, who is now teaching at Stern College and Professor Dmytro Vovk from Ukraine who is teaching at Cardozo Law.

To succeed in life, one needs to find role models and sources of inspiration. Martin Luther King Jr. has long been such a source for me and for our entire university.

If the "arc of the moral universe is long but bends towards justice," then we teach our students how to bend that arc, so that we will usher in a time in which societal harmony and justice for all is not just a dream but our reality.

My warmest regards



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