



Indifference



A few years ago, thanks to the benevolence of a friend, my wife, Heidi, and I were given the opportunity to spend some time with Elie Wiesel. You may remember him as the Holocaust survivor and Nobel Prize winner who wrote scores of books giving us insight into how to live meaningful, purposeful lives. Many students arrive at Wofford having read his book, "Night," while in middle school or high school. If you are not acquainted with him, a Google search for his quotations is worth your time.

During the afternoon and evening we were with Mr. Wiesel, he talked about the opposite of love. He said, "The opposite of love is not hate; it is indifference." I have recalled that statement almost daily since hearing it that day for the first time.

The past few days that statement has been with me virtually every moment. The seemingly endless events of racism, which have prompted people to rise up and speak out in protest tell me that there are lots of people who refuse to be indifferent. The times demand engagement. Voices need to be heard. Changes need to be implemented. A better world needs to be built. Indifference will not suffice.

Not long after our experience with Elie Wiesel, he delivered a speech in which he said, "The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it's indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference."

All things good and true and just require us to be proactive, to be engaged, to care, to listen, to understand, to act. Sometimes our singular actions may seem so small, but collectively they make a positive difference.

Thanks to you who are saying no to racism, hate and injustice. Thanks to you who are showing us that the opposite of indifference is art, faith, life and love. We can — we must — build with these. As Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. told us, "We can't wait." That would be indifference.

Dear Wofford family: A message from President Samhat

At Wofford College, diversity, equity and inclusion are core values, and our community is stronger for our differences. Thus, it is imperative at this time of pain and dissension throughout our country that we recommit ourselves to these values as well as a culture of mutual respect and civil discourse.

Wofford's mission calls for each of us to make positive contributions to a global society, fostering commitment to excellence in character, performance, leadership, service to others and lifelong learning. Let us use this moment to respond to current events as our mission instructs us. Listen to the concerns and frustrations of our neighbors. Develop the courage to speak against racism, bigotry and hate. Engage with respect, civility and empathy.

The past several months have revealed much about our nation and world. And while we look forward to returning to some kind of normal after this pandemic, the lives of those who have been killed or wrongfully accused, the families who continue to seek justice and the communities that continue to suffer remind us that we collectively have a responsibility to pursue a normal that reflects the values of our nation: justice, liberty and equality for all.

Let us strive together to achieve these ends, for we must not tolerate anything less as a nation and world.

A different type of summer

In addition to not holding in-person classes on campus this summer, the college will experience its first summer in 25 years without the Carolina Panthers. The NFL is requiring all teams to hold training camp at home facilities.



TRAINING CAMP

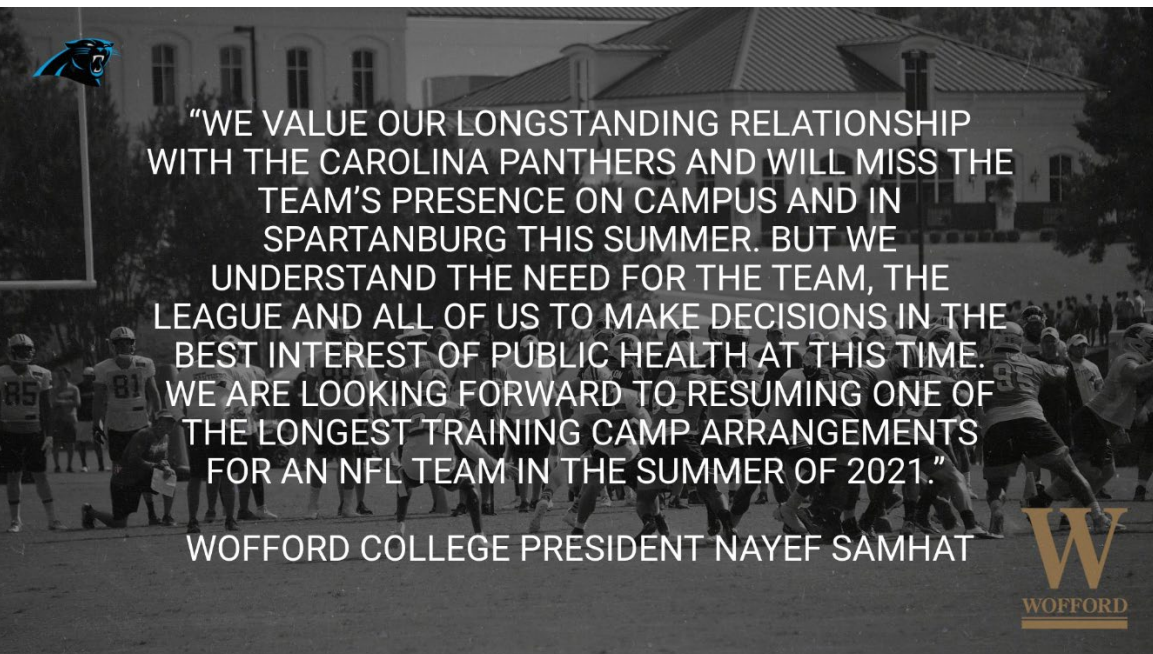

WE ARE AWARE OF THE LEAGUE'S DECISION REGARDING TRAINING CAMP AND SUPPORT ITS GOAL OF ENSURING THE SAFETY OF FANS, PLAYERS, COACHES AND STAFF. WE VALUE OUR LONGSTANDING RELATIONSHIP WITH WOFFORD COLLEGE AND THE SPARTANBURG AREA AND LOOK FORWARD TO RETURNING IN 2021.

 CAROLINA PANTHERS



"WE VALUE OUR LONGSTANDING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CAROLINA PANTHERS AND WILL MISS THE TEAM'S PRESENCE ON CAMPUS AND IN SPARTANBURG THIS SUMMER. BUT WE UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR THE TEAM, THE LEAGUE AND ALL OF US TO MAKE DECISIONS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF PUBLIC HEALTH AT THIS TIME. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO RESUMING ONE OF THE LONGEST TRAINING CAMP ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN NFL TEAM IN THE SUMMER OF 2021."

WOFFORD COLLEGE PRESIDENT NAYEF SAMHAT



Have you listened to the new podcast for Wofford Athletics?

Wofford College Sports Properties recently launched Conquer & Prevail: Tracking the Terriers. It's a weekly podcast sponsored by Pinnacle Hospitality. Phil Marcello, assistant media relations director, interviews coaches, staff and student-athletes to keep fans updated on Wofford teams. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information, including where to find the podcast.

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