

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Adler Community,

In recent years, universities and organizations across the world have faced growing expectations to respond to a wide range of political, environmental, health, governmental, regulatory, and societal related issues. As your new president, I very much recognize how important these moments are at Adler and the impact they can have on our community.

In my first message this academic year and at a recent town hall with faculty and staff, I stated that I want our collaborations to embody an ethic of care in all our work. With this ethos in mind, we are actively evaluating our institutional practices and strategic communication methods to ensure alignment with global best practices and to promote a healthy environment for our community.

To support this process, we are re-convening the **External Incident Response Committee (EIRC)** this fall. The EIRC's purpose is to develop a communication framework that reflects Adler's values and strategic priorities, focusing on how we thoughtfully respond to and communicate about events and incidents external to the University.

Before my arrival, Tara Romanella, associate vice president of Communications, identified the need for a collaborative, shared governance approach to determining the University's response to external events and issues, advocating for the creation of a committee with student, faculty, and staff leaders. This initiative resulted in the establishment of the EIRC with members appointed by the Senior Administrative Team.

Led by the Office of Communications, the EIRC will develop policy recommendations over the coming weeks to ensure strategic, consistent, and equitable communication that reflects our long-term interests and the diverse perspectives of our global community. The EIRC will also thoughtfully consider the ways in which correspondence across the community aligns with our role as a university. It is important to note that no standalone statements will be issued regarding external events until the EIRC has completed its work and established relevant guidelines. Questions about this initiative can be [sent to Ms. Romanella](#).

I understand that there continue to be ongoing issues that deeply impact our community. As we work together to identify and implement best practices, I hope that you will support one another and demonstrate an ethic of care. Your patience will be important as we continue this work with our colleagues on the EIRC and with future committees as we collaborate to develop relevant policies and frameworks this semester.

The EIRC will share information in the coming weeks on the [Communications and Marketing Connect page](#) and via the weekly campus newsletters. I want to thank the EIRC in advance for their commitment to Adler, their collaboration, and for working to provide recommendations on this important area.



Lisa Coleman, Ph.D.
President
Adler University