## IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## **Student Government**

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

1580E Memorial Union Ames, IA 50011 juliac@iastate.edu www.stugov.iastate.edu

**To:** Iowa State University Student Body

From: Julia Campbell & Megan Decker

**Date:** April 22nd, 2021

**Subject:** Statement Regarding The Jury's Verdict in The Murder of George Floyd

On Tuesday, April 20th, it was announced that Derek Chauvin was unanimously convicted of murdering George Floyd on all three charges by a jury in Minneapolis. We welcome this decision with optimism for the future and hope that this can be the first among many steps towards justice. This verdict does not undo the damage, pain, and injustice of George Floyd's death or the death of anyone else who has lost their life under similar, unjust circumstances.

The horrific murder of George Floyd, along with the multitude of racist incidents that have occured, including the recent, tragic losses of community members Daunte Wright and Ma'Khia Bryant, the hate crimes against the AAPI community, and additional acts of discrimination toward the LGBTQ+ community, our country and global community have been overwhelmed with feelings of fear, pain, and oppression. Our nation has been drawn more passionately than ever to confront the systemic oppression faced by the BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities. We keep in our thoughts those who have been deeply hurt by this history of oppression these communities have faced. The distress and harm that members of our community have experienced from these acts will not go unnoticed.

We must move forward in solidarity across the entire Iowa State community to cultivate an environment that is respectful, equitable, and harmonious. Each of us has a responsibility to make our campus and the world around us a more equitable place. We want Iowa State to be a place where richness of diversity is celebrated, and it is an inclusive environment that enables the maximum potential of all people.

Julia Campbell

Julia Campbell President of the Student Body Megan L. Decker

Megan Decker Vice President of the Student Body