

**From:** Official ESU Email

**Sent:** Thursday, January 7, 2021

**Subject:** Statement of Hope for ESU's Campus Community from Interim President Kenneth Long - January 7, 2021

Warriors,

Yesterday was a dark day in American history. As I watched the events unfold in Washington with my 11 and 13 year old daughters I, like so many, felt great astonishment, disbelief, sadness and frankly disgust. I never could have imagined having to find a way to explain such an assault on our democracy.

In this moment, a moment that will surely resonate in American history, we must remember that our republic was founded on the idea that we have a government of the people, by the people, for the people; and a peaceful transition of power in the cornerstone of our democracy. These principles far surpass any ideological differences. Our partisan beliefs pale in comparison to our commitment to a system of government established on the rule of law.

While yesterday's events have me feeling deeply troubled, I am not without hope. When I look at East Stroudsburg University students, I see the future leaders of our great nation. You allow me to believe our future is much brighter than the darkness of our present.

**Kenneth Long**  
**Interim President**

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