

From: [Kirksey, Jason](#)
To: [Sandefur, Gary](#); [Clark, Gary](#); [Weaver, Joe](#); [Wray, Kyle](#); [Holder, Mike](#)
Subject: FW: Gundy news coverage
Date: Thursday, April 9, 2020 3:52:05 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Just an FYI in case you did not also receive an email from Dr. Siddons.

JFK



Jason F. Kirksey, Ph.D.

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: "Siddons, Louise" <louise.siddons@okstate.edu>
Date: Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 10:56 AM
To: Jason Kirksey <jason.kirksey@okstate.edu>
Subject: Gundy news coverage

Dear Dr. Kirksey,

As I'm sure you're aware, there has been a lot of coverage about Mike Gundy's recent public comments, including his racism (and the fact that he has said many similarly offensive things in the past).

As usual in the spring, we are in the process of hiring faculty, which highlights the importance of OSU's public image. But just as importantly, I think that the coverage by Yahoo News, the Oklahoman, Sports Illustrated, and other media outlets, with its recurring message that Stillwater and OSU are communities that tolerate and even encourage Gundy's offensive attitude, is a striking reminder of why so many of our diverse and minority faculty hires don't stay in Stillwater—or, if they do, they disengage from the community, to the detriment of their professional and personal wellness.

I was sorry to see the university administration's disingenuous response to Gundy's press conference. As a university, we rely on foreign students and faculty to enrich our community (economically as well as intellectually and culturally!); we rely on our faculty and staff to support the

policies of the university when it comes to campus health. Why do we continue to protect a staff member whose statements malign our community members and endanger us all?

Until this week, I have been universally proud of Oklahoma State's response to the coronavirus pandemic. I would like to see our administration disavow Gundy's comments—at the very least. His statements were neither Loyal nor True.

I hope you and your family are well in this trying time.

Louise.

—

Louise Siddons, Ph.D.
she/her/hers
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Centering Modernism: J. Jay McVicker and Postwar American Art (2018):
www.oup.com/books/15008637/centering-modernism

“‘We Sure Didn't Know’: Laura Gilpin, Mary Ann Nakai, and Cold War Politics on the Navajo Nation,”
in *Authenticity in North America* (2019):
www.routledge.com/Authenticity-in-North-America-Place-Tourism-Heritage-Culture-and-the/Lovell-Hitchmough/p/book/9781138341319