## **Trans Day of Visibility**

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CSCU-President < CSCU-President@ct.edu> Wed 3/31/2021 1:50 PM

## Dear CSCU Community:

My message today is simple. To our trans and nonbinary friends, neighbors, classmates, and colleagues, you matter. We see you. We hear you, and we stand with you.

The basic human rights and dignities of trans people are under attack in this country. From my home state of Arkansas this week passing a bill that restricts access to healthcare for trans youth, to countless attempts across this country and even sadly here in Connecticut to limit their ability to play sports. It is important for us all to recognize the toll these relentless attacks must take on the physical and mental health of our trans students, colleagues, and neighbors.

I am not a lawmaker, but I will always stand up publicly for trans rights, which are synonymous with human rights at large. And within our system, I – and our Board of Regents – will always push for policies and procedures that promote the rights and dignity of trans people.

You are valued members of our community, and on this Transgender Day of Visibility, and every day, you should be free to be your true self. You are part of our CSCU family, and we will always have your back.

Sincerely,

Jane Gates, Ph.D. (she, her, hers)
Interim President, Connecticut State Colleges and Universities