Dear UConn Community:

Hang in there, Huskies.

Yesterday, the Daily Campus ran a thoughtful, and as it turns out, prophetic editorial. It pointed out that Americans are tired from a divided and divisive election, and deserve and need resolution and clarity. <u>The editorial</u> also warned that we might not get it immediately, and that is the case.

While no one prefers uncertainty over clarity, there is a silver lining to the present wait. It is a chance for both sides of a divided country to take a breath and to remind ourselves and each other of the commonality of the human struggle that we are all experiencing. And perhaps even do a little healing from a wearying campaign.

I want to thank all our students – including those from USG and PIRG – as well as our faculty and staff who organized and participated in meaningful discussions last night on campus and virtually regarding the election. I am proud of the vibrant intellectual environment that important programming like that nurtures.

To continue those discussions, we encourage members of the community to attend a session of <u>Now What?</u>, and/or support programs at the <u>Cultural Centers</u>. Other helpful resources are also shared on the <u>uKindness site</u> and through the <u>Office for Diversity and Inclusion</u>.

While we did not learn much last night about where our country is going next, we can learn something from last night about where it is now. We can reflect on how and why half the country sees the world so differently from one another (no matter which side of the divide).

As the DC said yesterday, we are in this waiting period together and we all need to support each other through it.

Sincerely, Tom