



July 7, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Indiana University Student Government condemns attempted lynching, attack on protesters

BLOOMINGTON, IN—The Indiana University Student Government condemns the attempted lynching of Vauhxx Rush Booker at Lake Monroe Saturday and the attack on two ally protesters Monday by a driver in downtown Bloomington.

"We condemn the brutal acts against community leader Vauhxx Rush Booker and the violence against allies in our community. We call on the Monroe County Prosecutor to bring these perpetrators to justice," Student Body President Rachel Aranyi said. "Bloomington is not immune to the inequities in our country or acts of prejudice. As an organization and individually we will continue to advocate, to call out these inequities wherever we see them, and to be a platform for student voices."

Indiana University's President, Michael A. McRobbie, announced last week the appointment of a six-member committee to assess whether David Starr Jordan, a former Indiana University president and leading figure in the American eugenics movement, should remain the namesake of several university landmarks. This follows the university's recent commitments to underwriting social justice research and the renaming of the Intramural Center on the Bloomington campus in honor of Bill Garrett, the first black basketball player to regularly play in the Big Ten conference.

"We hope to see university leadership take more urgency with issues pertaining to racial injustice," Student Body Vice President Ruhan Syed said. "The review of institutional names is an important first step, but we are calling on administrators to listen to student advocates and community leaders' demands for specific, holistic plans on how they will make Indiana University a more equitable campus for black students."

IUSG is advocating for student representation on the university renaming committee; recently committed to appointing the first ever IU Police Department ("IUPD") student liaison; and last month hosted its first of several round table discussions for minority student leaders and the IUPD. This is part of the new administration's ongoing commitment to empowering student organizations and leaders to advocate directly to university administrators.

The Indiana University Student Government ("IUSG") is the university-wide student government at Indiana University-Bloomington and is committed to protecting student rights, enriching student life, and improving Indiana University.

For more information, visit: iustudentgovernment.indiana.edu

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