



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™

Student Government Association

Friday, June 19, 2020

Dear TTUHSC Family,

On behalf of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Student Government Association (TTUHSC SGA), I would like to recognize the importance of today and what it means for our African American friends, family members, community members, and colleagues, as well as our nation as a whole.

On June 19, 1865, word of the Confederate surrender finally reached the State of Texas and slaves were informed of their freedom. This means that for over two years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in January 1863 by President Abraham Lincoln, slaves were subjected to cruel treatment and servitude despite the fact that they were legally freed.

This day, Juneteenth, commemorates the long past due ending of the atrocities associated with the enslavement of African Americans in the United States. With all that is going on in our nation at this time, it is important that we all pause to remember how significant of a moment in history took place on this date *only 155 years ago*. It should also serve as a reminder of the progress that has been made in terms of equal rights and treatment of African Americans in our society, but also give us an opportunity to reflect on where progress still needs to be made.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. D. Gonzalez'.

Marcus D. Gonzalez

President

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Student Government Association