

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Jan. 7, 2020**

### **SUNY ONEONTA ACTING PRESIDENT DENOUNCES U.S. CAPITOL RIOTS**

**ONEONTA, N.Y.** – Earlier today, SUNY Oneonta’s Acting President Dennis Craig issued a statement denouncing yesterday’s riots at the U.S. Capitol:

“Jan. 6, 2021 was a shocking and sad day for our country. On behalf of SUNY Oneonta, I condemn those who disrupted the certification of Electoral College votes yesterday. The peaceful transfer of federal executive power is a hallmark of American democracy. To delay it is to trespass against our republic and all for which it stands.

If these events left you feeling angry or scared, please know that you are not alone. The scene of a mob on the steps of the United States Capitol becoming a riot desecrating the Senate chamber was surreal.

In the face of division, let us remember that, as an institution of higher learning, we are not powerless. During this time of uncertainty and fear, SUNY Oneonta must remain a community of care united by higher ideals, among these, our core value of inclusivity. We are called to participate in and actively work together to protect our democracy by thinking critically, challenging the status quo, testing assumptions and asking difficult questions — peacefully and respectfully. This is the path of progress in a just society.”