

From: Sloan Vry
Subject: Dr. O'Kane - Plant Systematics
Date: October 4, 2021 at 10:30:57 PM CDT

Hello there,

I am Sloan Vry, and I am one of Dr. O'Kane's Plant Systematics students. I am writing to you because I want everyone to know how I feel about Dr. O'Kane. Dr. O'Kane is one of the best professors I have had in my three years at the University of Northern Iowa. I can see how much he loves teaching, especially teaching something he is so passionate about. I don't think there is anyone as knowledgeable about plants and plant systematics in Cedar Falls, let alone the state of Iowa. He truly cares about his students, and I think he made this crystal clear when requested the class to wear masks. He wanted to protect me and my peers. I personally was uncomfortable sitting next to a peer if they were not wearing a mask. He also wanted to protect himself; this is in no way selfish. The pandemic is not over, and it is disheartening that people are acting like it's over. I am completely devastated that he is being punished for doing the right thing. Even worse, my class and I are being punished on top of it.

Thank you,
Sloan Vry