

Demands for UC solidarity with Immigrants, Muslims, and International Students in Response to Actions Taken by the Trump Administration

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WHEREAS, the past two weeks of Donald J. Trump's presidency have left many communities in real fear of what the future may hold; and

WHEREAS, as a result of recent executive orders by Donald J. Trump, many communities, including but not limited to women, immigrants, Muslim communities, People of Color, and LGBTQ peoples, are in danger of being targeted and persecuted; and

WHEREAS, as the UC statement of principles against intolerance notes, "the mission of the University is to promote discovery and create and disseminate knowledge, and opportunities for all, and to educate a civil populace and the next generation of leaders. The University therefore strives to foster an environment in which all are included, all are given an equal opportunity to learn and explore, in which differences as well as commonalities are celebrated, and in which dissenting viewpoints are not only tolerated but encouraged. Acts of hatred and other intolerant conduct, as well as acts of discrimination that demean our differences, are antithetical to the values of the University and serve to undermine its purpose;" and

WHEREAS, the University of California must be held accountable to this principle by providing every support and resource necessary to sustain a safe and welcoming space for all students, regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, ability, creed, immigration status, or any other identity.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, the University of California Student Association commits itself to zealously advocate on behalf of marginalized and underrepresented communities and to resist any policies intended to oppress students and their communities; and

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, the University of California Student Association calls upon the University of California to work with affected to students to hear concerns and take appropriate actions based on input directly from and in response to the desires and lived experiences of affected marginalized communities. In this spirit, the University of California Student Association calls upon the University of California to take the following measures to support students and their communities in the UC:

- 1) Divest from any and all companies that refuse service to students based on their sexual orientation, gender, immigration status, or any other identity.¹

¹ <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-wells-fargo-daca-20170130-story.html>

- 2) Refuse to participate in any immigration enforcement of not just students, but also their families and UC workers.²
- 3) Require that recruiters from the Department of Homeland Security, Border Patrol, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement wear civilian clothing, bring no weapons, drive no official vehicles, and recruit at an off-campus location
- 4) Provide at least one full-time legal counselor on each campus to be solely in charge of assisting undocumented students and International students with their immigration legal problems.
- 5) Eliminate citizenship status as a requirement in any university-administered scholarship or internship application, to the extent possible given funding sources.
- 6) Provide an emergency vacation semester housing relief program for international students regardless of their enrollment in courses.
- 7) Extend housing for international students during all holiday breaks throughout the academic year and provide on-campus activities during long holidays and breaks to ensure international students do not feel isolated.
- 8) Mandate all campus faculty to upload their course and lecture materials online to the class websites to allow students abroad to follow through the class material remotely. This resource is only to be used as a supplemental support for students and may not be used as a replacement of physical classes nor as endorsement of online courses.
- 9) Engage in partnerships with sister universities across world to allow students stuck abroad to continue their education in those universities, e.g. by the completion of equivalent laboratory coursework, in addition to lobbying through all available channels for the return of every individual UC student, worker, and family member who is stuck abroad due to the executive order; with the Chancellors and the President of the University of California enlisted in this effort.
- 10) Provide confidential and specific counseling programs for international students and undocumented students to discuss their issues and seek support.
- 11) Establish a designated sacred area on each UC campus for students to perform their prayers, including but not limited to implementing washing stations, bidets, and meditation spaces.
- 12) Ensure student workers and workers are able to fulfil all religious obligations without repercussion, including but not limited to providing break times for students to perform prayers.
- 13) Ensure students are able to complete course obligations via accommodations for religious obligations and, in particular, allow Muslim students to take exams after they finish fasting during the month of Ramadan.
- 14) Commit to an annual “UC Hearing Day” for students of various backgrounds to meet with the UC Office of the President and the UC Regents and voice their issues.
- 15) The UC must commit not to cut any student services or resources should the university of the state face budget cuts from the federal government.

² http://www.activism.com/en_US/petition/protest-against-the-arrest-of-jesus-gutierrez/86615

- 16) Creation of emergency student loan programs intended as relief resources for international and undocumented students.
- 17) The UC should create a committee or other structure parallel to the DACA help office for International students, as a lot of International students may lose their visas.
- 18) Endorsement of SB 54 (De Leon) - the California Values Act, encouraging all entities that provide services related to physical/mental health and wellness, education, or access to justice, including the UC, to adopt a model policy limiting immigration enforcement to the fullest extent possible consistent with federal/state law. It's often described as meaning that officers of the university cannot act as immigration officials. While the UC has separately stated its intentions in not enforcing immigration laws via its law enforcement, it has yet to endorse the bill;