

**ACADEMIC SENATE RESOLUTION
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES**

Institutional Support of and Protection for Undocumented Students at Cal State LA

Approved May 2, 2017

WHEREAS: There are over 2.6 million undocumented immigrants in California, including more than 553,000 undocumented K-16 students and approximately 1,000 undocumented students at Cal State LA; and

WHEREAS: The President of the United States has committed to the deportation of undocumented immigrants, which may include and/or affect Cal State LA undocumented students, staff, and/or their family and community members; and

WHEREAS: The President of the United States has threatened to eliminate the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which grants undocumented immigrants—including some but not all undocumented students and staff at Cal State LA—who meet certain requirements, a two year “deferred action” or temporary relief from deportation, an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) that they can use to seek employment, eligibility to travel out of the U.S. for educational, employment, or humanitarian reasons under the advance parole program; and

WHEREAS: Federal law protects the privacy of student records under FERPA, and California law provides educational financial assistance to some undocumented California residents qualified for AB 540 and the California “Dream” Act (AB 130 and 131); and

WHEREAS: The UC President Janet Napolitano, CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White and CCC Chancellor-designate Eloy Ortiz Oakley, in a joint letter, dated November 9, 2016, rightly pointed out that, “DACA is rooted in the fundamental premise that no one should be punished for the actions of others. In order to be eligible for DACA, an individual must have been brought to this country as a minor, stayed out of trouble, and continued to pursue an education. These sons and daughters of undocumented immigrants are as American as any other child across the nation, in all but in the letter of the law. Some never even spoke the language of their native land. They do not represent a public safety threat. In fact, they represent some of the best our nation has to offer. They voluntarily came forward, out of the shadows, to participate in the DACA program.” They further affirmed that “The University of California, California State University, and the California Community College systems each have thousands of DACA students studying at our institutions. They are constructive and contributing members of our communities. They should be able to pursue their dream of higher education without fear of being arrested, deported, or rounded up for just trying to learn”; and

WHEREAS: CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White in an open letter, dated November 17, 2016, stated immediate concern for students and other members of the CSU community who lack documentation and fear actions based on the emerging national narrative of potential changes in immigration policy and related enforcement action. He outlined a flexible CSU policy that affirms: the CSU will not enter into agreements with state or local law enforcement agencies, Homeland Security or any other federal department for the enforcement of federal immigration law; University police departments will not honor immigration hold requests; and University police do not contact, detain, question or arrest individuals solely on the basis of being – or suspected of being – a person that lacks documentation. And that the CSU will partner with

elected officials at the state and national level to prevent negative developments regarding immigration for our undocumented students, including those with DACA status; and

WHEREAS: Cal State LA President William A. Covino in a letter dated November 17, 2016, confirmed that “Our position is clear: Cal State LA will not enter into agreements with state or local law enforcement agencies, Homeland Security, or any other federal department, for the enforcement of federal immigration law. Our University Department of Public Safety will not honor immigration hold requests, and our officers will not contact, detain, question or arrest individuals solely on the basis of being – or suspected of being – a person who lacks documentation” and

WHEREAS: Cal State LA President William A. Covino in a letter dated November 14, 2016 acknowledged that “We are pleased and proud to be the home of the Glazer Family Dreamers Resource Center, which provides a dedicated space for academic guidance, referral assistance and other support to undocumented students. At this time of uncertainty, the work of the Dreamers Resource Center is of vital importance to the Cal State LA community. The Center stands as evidence of the university’s steadfast commitment to serve all students. Today we reaffirm that commitment. We stand for the values that the Dreamers Resource Center upholds. We are a welcoming, inclusive campus that prides itself on its diversity and values every member of our community. We realize that our strength lies in respecting our differences and striving together for the public good”; and

WHEREAS: On November 15, 2016, the Academic Senate of Cal State LA, approved unanimously, the following statement reaffirming our campus values: “Members of the Academic Senate of California State University, Los Angeles recognize that the culmination of the presidential election cycle was filled with anxiety and uncertainty. The outcome of the election has failed to allay this fear and tension and has left many members of our Cal State LA community concerned about their dignity, personal safety, and communities. The Academic Senate values and promotes tolerance and constructive dialog while ensuring that both freedom of expression and academic freedom are upheld. As such, the Academic Senate reaffirms the values stated in our Strategic Plan on diversity, inclusion, culture, and mutual respect. At Cal State LA we continue to “cultivate diversity, expect cultural competence, and actively seek perspectives and engagement from all constituents in our community, to develop just and equitable expectations.” We also remain “committed to cultivating a supportive and accepting environment where each of us commits to fostering a culture of respect for all.” and

WHEREAS: The President of the United States’ anti-immigrant agenda continues to terrify our undocumented students at Cal State LA, as evidenced by the escalating anxiety and reported hesitancy by students who are eligible to apply for and submit required documentation for DACA, AB 540, and California Dream Act; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate fully support and stand by the opportunity for undocumented students to access and pursue educational opportunities at Cal State LA, as well as professional opportunities for staff with undocumented status; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate commend the work of the Glazer Dreamers Resource Center, and recommend greater institutional support to ensure its sustainability and expand efforts to provide support services for undocumented students; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate recommend that the University create special funding sources segregated from federal monies to expand scholarship opportunities and develop a work study program or provide stipends in exchange for performing research or other meaningful educational projects under the guidance of faculty members, for undocumented students who might lose work authorization with the elimination of the federal DACA program and/or those undocumented students who do not qualify for AB 540 or CA Dream Act; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate recommend that the University assist in providing temporary accommodation for students who cannot return home due to fear of deportation; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate recommend that the University continue to ensure that mental health services are equipped with mental health professionals who have cultural competency in working with politically marginalized communities; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate recommend that the University protect student privacy by refusing to voluntarily cooperate to release information regarding the immigration status of our students and community members, and by purging and securely deleting all information about student citizenship or immigration status not necessary for immediate University functions, including all citizenship and immigration information on students who have applied but not matriculated, withdrawn from the University, or graduated; and that the University refuse to comply with immigration authorities regarding warrantless raids or deportations; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate encourage faculty to increase program, department, and college-level efforts to symbolically and materially support undocumented students and staff within their respective units; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate encourage faculty to include a statement in their course syllabi informing and sharing with students, detailed information about campus resources (including the Glazer Family Dreamers Resource Center) available to all undocumented students where they may request help in applying for financial aid, social support, and referrals to counseling and legal services, as well as other resources; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate express a commitment to cultivating a space of inclusivity for all members of our community at risk of deportation including CSU students, faculty, staff, alumni and their families; and be it finally

RESOLVED: That the Cal State LA Academic Senate distribute this resolution to:

- Mayor of Los Angeles Eric Garcetti
- CSU Board of Trustees
- CSU Chancellor Timothy P. White
- Cal State LA President William A. Covino
- CSU campus Senate Chairs
- Academic Senate of the CSU
- Cal State LA chapter of Associated Students Inc. (ASI)
- California State Student Association (CSSA)
- California Faculty Association (CFA)
- CSU Employees Union (CSUEU)
- Cal State LA Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Lynn Mahoney
- Cal State LA Vice President of Student Affairs Nancy Wada-McKee

- Coordinator of the Glazer Family Dreamers Resource Center Luz Borjorn
- Cal State LA University Times