

## **Faculty Senate Resolution in “Support of Declaring Drake University a Sanctuary for Undocumented Members of the Drake Community”**

Faculty Senate urges Drake University to become a sanctuary for undocumented members of the Drake community and to affirm its commitment to protect immigrants from unfair deportation, investigation, or other intimidation based on their immigration status.

### **Rationale:**

Undocumented immigrants are among the groups most vulnerable to policy changes that have been proposed by the newly elected presidential administration. Among the 11.1 million estimated undocumented immigrants, there are 2.1 million undocumented students, many of them enrolled at universities across the United States. (See [http://www.e4fc.org/images/Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.e4fc.org/images/Fact_Sheet.pdf).)

Institutions of higher education can play a critical role in protecting their students, faculty, and staff by declaring themselves sanctuaries for undocumented people. More than 700,000 students in the United States have been approved for Deferred Action for Child Arrivals (DACA), a limited protected status (granted for two year, renewable periods) that will become vulnerable under new administrative policies. Announced plans to revoke DACA status and deport millions of immigrants will break up families, harm communities, and diminish the civic and economic vitality of our city, state, region, and country.

Faculty at many colleges and universities, including Lewis & Clark University, Pomona College, Smith College, University of Massachusetts Amherst, Brown University, Bard College, Yale University, University of Southern California, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Stanford University, and Harvard University, have initiated petition drives to urge their institutions to become sanctuaries for undocumented persons. (See [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/colleges-and-universities-should-become-sanctuaries\\_us\\_58291be8e4b02b1f5257a57b](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/colleges-and-universities-should-become-sanctuaries_us_58291be8e4b02b1f5257a57b))

As a sanctuary institution of higher education, Drake University can protect undocumented members of its community and other immigrants by guaranteeing the privacy of information regarding immigration status and by refusing to comply with immigration authorities regarding deportations or raids. Pursuant to a 2011 memo, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers are subject to restrictions on their capacity to enforce immigration regulations in places of worship, schools, and hospitals. (See <https://www.ice.gov/doclib/ero-outreach/pdf/10029.2-policy.pdf>)

Declaring Drake University a sanctuary for undocumented members of our community will uphold our commitment not only to protecting the well-being of individual students but more broadly to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Faculty





