Resolution on Planned Termination of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Policy

Whereas, the President of the United States has announced the planned termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, imperiling the futures of many students at the University of Illinois, and many young people nationwide; and

Whereas, the President of the University of Illinois System has declared the inconsistency of this policy shift with our commitment to high-quality and accessible education to “all qualified and deserving students” and pledged support for students through the process of DACA elimination; and

Whereas, the Chancellor of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has affirmed the importance of all students, faculty, staff and visiting scholars to the University’s mission, recognized how critical immigrant students in particular are to the University, and pledged to advocate for access of undocumented and DACA students to full educational opportunities; and

Whereas, undocumented students themselves have registered the need of University support for enhanced financial aid opportunities accessible to them, counseling services during this difficult and frightening time, and assistance in access to legal advice; therefore

Be it resolved, that the Senate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign commends and endorses the System President’s and University Chancellor’s statements of recognition concerning the importance of immigrant students, faculty, and staff, whether documented or undocumented, to the University mission, as well as their pledges of support and aid; and

Be it also resolved, that the Senate encourages the University to actively consult with imperiled undocumented students, faculty and staff themselves in organizing such support; and

Be it also resolved, that the Senate recommends that the University pursue possible sources for expanded financial aid and legal advice to extend to undocumented students as they face new uncertainty in completing their educations; and

Be it also resolved, that Senate members stand ready to provide advice, support, and organizational work to an inclusive and community-wide institutional plan to support immigrant students, faculty and staff.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND INCLUSION
Kathryn Oberdeck, Chair
Kendall Brooks
Tina Cowsert
Jadyn Harris
Yih-Kuen Jan
Harley Johnson
JJ Pionke