

Rec. #2017-02-08 UNIVERSITY SENATE RECOMMENDATION TO THE PRESIDENT
University Senate Resolution (endorsed with no opposition and 3 abstentions on February 16,
2017):

***University Senate Resolution on Sanctuary for Undocumented Immigrant Students and
Campus Community Members Affected by Executive Orders***

The University Senate strongly encourages the President to endorse this resolution and
requests a response to the Senate on this matter by its next meeting.

**University Senate Resolution on Sanctuary for Undocumented Immigrant Students
and Campus Community Members Affected by Executive Orders**

Whereas Western Kentucky University is committed to the search for truth, justice, and human dignity that involves our scholarship, research, teaching, and other endeavors;

Whereas continuing engagement with and support of students of all backgrounds furthers WKU's stated purpose and mission, which are to prepare students of all backgrounds to be productive, engaged, and socially responsible citizen-leaders of a global society, and to be a leading American university with international reach;

Whereas the recent executive order banned travel (now stayed by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals) for immigrant and non-immigrant students, scholars, and staff, as well as refugees, from seven specific countries with Muslim majorities runs counter to our commitment to free inquiry and the advancement of knowledge;

Whereas this now-stayed executive order is antithetical in letter and spirit to our insistence that individual students and scholars should be free to pursue their scholarship and learning without fear of intimidation or discrimination of any kind; and it contradicts our unconditional rejection of every form of bigotry, discrimination, xenophobia and harassment;

Whereas undocumented immigrant students at WKU have been accepted into the University family under legal provisions such as the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program and are valued members of our community;

Whereas the term "Sanctuary Campus" builds on the enduring tradition that universities are sanctuaries free from civil intrusion and carries considerable, beneficial symbolic weight;

Be it resolved that the University Senate urges WKU's President to declare the University a sanctuary campus and adopt the following sanctuary provisions:

- The university affirms unequivocally that undocumented immigrant students and international students affected by executive orders are full members of the WKU family who will be protected;
- WKU will not allow Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) / Customs and Border Protection (CBP) / U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to be present on the university campus for enforcement purposes unless required by a warrant;
- WKU will not share information about undocumented immigrant students unless required by subpoena, court order, or warrant;
- WKU will continue to admit undocumented immigrant students as the law allows and offer undocumented students equal access to university resources and services as appropriate.
- WKU will provide the following resources to support students and scholars from all countries included in the executive order and for all immigrant students affected by these policies: access to immigration and legal advising; expanded opportunities to remain on campus throughout their time at WKU; and housing assistance and other resources during break periods.