

SU Senate Resolution on the Executive Order “Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States”

Whereas President Trump’s executive order¹ limiting travel to the United States by nationals of seven majority Muslim countries affects some members of our university community personally², and all of us ethically,

Whereas 10s of thousands of academics, including over 50 Nobel laureates, have signed a petition³ denouncing the travel ban, and calling for its withdrawal,

Whereas nearly 50 university Presidents, including those of Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard, Rutgers, Columbia, Johns Hopkins, Georgetown, Berkeley, NYU, Notre Dame, Tufts, Brandeis, Michigan, Emory and Stony Brook, have signed a letter⁴ calling on President Trump to “rectify or rescind” the executive order,

Whereas nearly 600 member colleges and universities of the American Council on Education have sent an open letters⁵ to Homeland Security Secretary John Kelly expressing “concerns” with the travel ban,

Whereas many individual Syracuse University faculty have signed petitions⁶ denouncing the ban, and yet Syracuse University does not appear as a signatory on any of the major statements calling for the ban to be rescinded, or even on the letter expressing “concerns” about the ban,

BE IT RESOLVED, the Senate of Syracuse University declares our collective *opposition* to the ban, our collective aspiration to do all we can to protect our community from this and all other anti-immigrant, anti-refugee and anti-Muslim actions that the federal government may take, or such legislation it may enact, in the days to come. We applaud the efforts by the Chancellor to assure that all members of our community are protected and able to continue their studies⁷, and pledge to do our best to realize them. We also very much appreciate the most recent encouraging comments by the Chancellor on these issues.⁸ Going forward, we call on our Chancellor to join his peers at other major universities in publicly and collectively opposing executive actions that are harmful to our mission and our values; and, further, to proclaim that Syracuse University endorses legal and legislative efforts to reverse such executive or legislative actions. It is vital that universities, including ours, serve as national and international models of inclusion, free expression and tolerance at all times, but especially at times such as this, when fundamental rights are under threat.

¹ <http://www.cnn.com/2017/01/28/politics/text-of-trump-executive-order-nation-ban-refugees/>

² <http://dailyorange.com/2017/01/50-syracuse-university-students-told-not-to-travel-in-response-to-trump-executive-order/>

³ <https://notoimmigrationban.com>

⁴ <http://www.princeton.edu/main/news/archive/S48/60/53M84/?section=topstories>

⁵ <http://www.acenet.edu/news-room/Documents/Letter-From-Institutions-to-DHS-on-Immigration-Executive-Order.pdf>

⁶ https://docs.google.com/document/d/10MDznO9rfHNjZjmF0v3oeb_CdZYzXbXZeWcBgBsQHhw/edit

⁷ <http://news.syr.edu/2017/01/message-to-the-community-from-chancellor-syverud/>

⁸ <http://dailyorange.com/2017/02/wheatly-addresses-undocumented-students-koch-foundation-during-university-senate-open-forum/>
