Subject: [allusers] Message to the Community on Immigration From: "President Susan A. Cole" <coles@mail.montclair.edu> Date: 5/2/2017 1:54 PM To: allusers <allusers@lists.montclair.edu>, allstudents@lists.montclair.edu

Message to Members of the University Community on Immigration Matters:

The past few months have been an anxious and confusing time for many of our international and immigrant students and employees, and it is quite possible that there will continue to be uncertainty in regard to immigration matters in the months ahead.

On January 31, 2017, I reached out to the University community to affirm Montclair State's commitment to welcoming students, faculty, and staff of all backgrounds and to assuring their safety and maintaining their privacy to the fullest extent possible. I would like to reiterate <u>that message</u> now. Montclair State University has not and will not discriminate on the basis of immigration status. The University will continue to do everything in its power to protect and support our students in achieving their educational goals. Specifically:

- Montclair State University and the University Police do not and will not inquire about the immigration status of our students.
- The University will not provide information about our students' immigration status to federal officials in the absence of a subpoena or comparable legal order.
- The University maintains a strong commitment to and compliance with federal and state privacy laws applicable to our students.

As the end of the semester approaches and you consider summer travel plans, please stay apprised of executive orders and judicial decisions that could impact foreign travel and your ability to return. Although President Trump's <u>March 6 executive order</u> was stayed by federal judges, it is imperative that students and employees with immigration issues remain informed about any developments. I remind you that the University maintains a website <u>https://www.montclair.edu/president/current-and-emerging-immigration-issues/</u> with up-to-date immigration information and has provided a primary point-of-contact for immigration-related information and assistance:

Elizabeth Gill, Director of International Services Global Education Center 973-655-7301 gille@mail.montclair.edu

The University also calls your attention to the following important advice which is available at https://www.montclair.edu/president/current-and-emerging-immigration-issues/

Do *not* seek unvetted immigration advice over the internet. The University's Immigration web page <u>https://www.montclair.edu/president/current-and-emerging-immigration-issues/</u>contains reputable advice and links to assist you. If you have questions, please contact the University's primary point-of-contact for immigration-related matters: <u>Elizabeth Gill</u>, Director of International Services, Global Education Center. If your situation requires the advice of immigration attorneys, <u>CUNY CLEAR</u>, <u>http://www.law.cuny.edu</u>/<u>academics/clinics/immigration/clear.html</u> is one excellent resource for free legal services and guidance.

If you are from one of the six countries affected by the March 6 executive order (Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan,

Syria, Yemen), have an expired visa, and plan to travel, we urge you to obtain the advice of a licensed, experienced immigration lawyer <u>prior to making travel plans</u>. In addition, in case of an emergency, please ensure that a trusted friend or family member inside the U.S. has copies of all of your immigration documents, your flight itinerary, and your contact information before you board a plane to depart or re-enter the U.S.

• If you are a U.S. citizen or valid visa holder, green card holder, or holder of dual citizenship from one of the six affected countries, your travel is not currently restricted, but please be aware that you could encounter longer-than-usual wait times at the Port of Entry (Customs).

Each of you is a valued member of the Montclair State community, and the University is here to assist you in any way that it can. We want each of you to remain safe and to be able to pursue your educational goals without interruption. Please do not hesitate to consult with Elizabeth Gill, Director of International Services, Global Education Center should you have any concerns or require advice or assistance.

Sincerely,

--

President Susan A. Cole

Susan A. Cole, Ph.D. President 973-655-4211 fax: 973-655-7195 susan.cole@montclair.edu



1 NORMAL AVE | MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY | 07043

allusers mailing list