Dear colleagues,

We know that many of you have been very closely following the rescission of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and share our concerns about what this means for our students and employees who benefit from the program. Recent news from Washington has indicated the potential of a legislative solution to this issue, but to date there has been no word of a specific solution nor a timetable for when it might come. In the meantime, those impacted by the administration’s announcement are left uncertain about their future.

Recently, the District’s DACA Rapid Response Team met and discussed the kinds of resources available in this area and how to best support students, faculty, staff and our community at large. As a direct result of that conversation, we are pleased to share the following:

- Based on the feedback of the Rapid Response Team, our General Counsel’s office has rewritten the memo which provides advice for faculty and staff regarding what to do should Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents or other federal authorities come to one of our campuses (click here to view or download it). We hope that the new draft provides more clarity for faculty who are concerned about being prepared to respond to an incredibly difficult situation like this. LRCFT has also provided excellent resources on this topic here.

- In order to more clearly communicate with our community about DACA, we have launched a new, more robust DACA-focused website with the goal of providing students, faculty and staff with access to a variety of resources from experts throughout the region and the country. The District has also launched a social media campaign to help raise awareness of this issue within our community, and is continuing to share updates directly with students.

We have also heard consistently throughout this process that faculty and staff want to know what they can do to help. First and foremost, we can all continue to remind DACA recipients to apply for renewal if they are eligible, stay in school and/or employed, stay in the country and know their rights. The resources outlined above can help in these areas and we would encourage you to share them broadly with any/all who may find them useful.

The Los Rios Foundation has made Student Emergency Fund grants available to our current Los Rios students whose DACA status expires before March 5 (the application deadline is October 5). It costs $495 to apply for a DACA status extension, which is out of reach for many of our students. To help meet this expected extra demand on the Student Emergency Fund, please consider supporting this effort by making a gift to the Student Emergency Fund here. Your gift will help Los Rios students experiencing a life crisis, including our DACA students. If you know a student who needs to apply for a grant before the application deadline, they can get more information here.

Thank you all again for your continued efforts to support our students and employees. We will remain vigilant in following and responding to any new developments on this issue and will continue to provide further updates as more information becomes available.
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