

September 5, 2017

## Dear Campus Community,

Earlier today, President Donald Trump and Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced the end of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. As you know, the DACA program has enabled scores of students to attend Western Oregon University. Many of these students have assumed leadership roles while on campus, and others have gone on to start their professional lives and/or attend graduate school after graduation.

This decision by the Trump administration goes against our core values as a nation and as a university. After the national election in November 2016, I <u>issued a statement</u> reassuring our students they would continue to have the opportunity to succeed. WOU has always nurtured a caring, inclusive community, and as we confront this latest decision, we reaffirm our commitment to the principles of diversity, inclusion and community.

As events unfold in Washington, D.C., WOU pledges the following:

- WOU Campus Safety officers do not regulate or enforce immigration laws.
- WOU will not participate in immigration enforcement activities unless required to do so by law.
- WOU is committed to a safe, inclusive community and respects the rights of each community member to civil discourse.
- WOU will not tolerate threats or acts of discrimination and will strive to sustain a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of the university community.
- Any and all requests for information regarding the immigration status of students or employees will not be provided unless required by law and reviewed by the vice president and general counsel.

It is my sincere hope that Congress will act quickly to correct this decision so that our currently enrolled DACA students can fulfill their dreams and WOU will continue to be a place where future DACA students succeed. Finally, additional information about how to support DACA students at WOU can be found on our resources page, which I am proud to say was created by our students in Professor Plec's class.

Sincerely,

Rex Fuller, President

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