Protect Undocumented Students, Faculty Senate Urges Temple Administration

The Faculty Senate endorsed a letter on Friday, December 9 urging the Temple University administration to commit to protecting undocumented students, as other universities around the region and country already have.

The professors presented a <u>letter</u> urging Temple President Richard Englert and Provost Joanne Epps to commit to not revealing students' immigration status without a warrant. The letter has been signed by almost 1,000 faculty members, university staffers, administrators, students and community members. The move has also been endorsed by TAUP, the union representing university faculty, as well as TUGSA, the graduate student union.

The letter makes several other requests, including that the university not assist in deportations or raids, not permit immigration authorities on campus without a warrant, offer in-state tuition to all students who meet residency qualifications, regardless of immigration status.

The presidents of the University of Pennsylvania and Swarthmore College have recently committed to such actions. Given Temple's mission to serve North Philadelphia, and the university's large minority population, we feel essential for our university to make this commitment as well.

President Englert has already signed a letter, along with 500 college and university presidents, calling for the government to uphold DACA, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. This is an important first step; now we are eager for that to be followed by a commitment to protecting our undocumented students.

For more information, contact Jennifer J. Lee, assistant clinical professor of law, at tuf31380@temple.edu, or Magda Konieczna at magda@temple.edu.