Student Support in a Shifting Landscape

A Presentation About Protecting Student Information and Supporting Undocumented, DACA, and Temporary Protected Status Recipient Students
Learning Outcomes

• During this time we will have opportunities to:
  – deepen our knowledge about undocumented, DACA, and TPS recipient students;
  – learn about and relevant policies, procedures and practices related to protecting student information and;
  – share thoughts and questions.
Terms and Definitions

• Undocumented people: 11 million in US
• Development, Relief, and Education for Alien* Minors (DREAM) Act: first introduced in 2001, offered pathway to legal status, never signed into law
• Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program: 2012 by Executive Memo, ~800,000 currently enrolled, eligibility (date of migration, age)
• Temporary Protected Status (TPS): 320,000 people, 10 countries, civil war, natural disaster
University Position on Undocumented Students

• “As you know, published reports suggest that President Trump plans to end DACA… This news is very upsetting, undermines the academic endeavors of our own students, and is contrary to our basic values. To the students directly affected by this decision and to everyone at Brandeis: we remain committed to the safety, well-being, and educational success of all our undocumented students. That commitment will not change”.
  
  – Statement shared by President Liebowitz, senior leadership, and student leadership on 9/5/2017.
Current Realities
Current Federal Level Status: DREAM Act and DACA

- DACA was set to expire in March, but currently blocked by the courts.
- DREAM legislation is being drafted and redrafted in the House of Reps. and is being litigated in the judicial branch.
- The United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is accepting DACA renewals only. No new applications.
- Permits might expire before renewals processed
Current Federal Level Status: TPS

- Nepal: Ending June 2018
- Honduras: Ending July 2018
- Somalia and Yemen: Ending September 2018
- Sudan: Ending November 2018
- South Sudan: May 2019
- Nicaragua: June 2019
- Haiti: Ending July 2019
- El Salvador: Ending September 2019
- Syria: Ending September 2019
Connecting with Our Students
Undocumented People

• Federal immigration law does not prohibit people who are undocumented from enrolling in private or public schools

• Approximately eleven million undocumented people live in the United States.

• Of that group, between one and two million are people under 18.
Undocumented Children and Adolescents

• Approximately 65,000 undocumented students graduate from high school each year

• Five to ten percent of these students attend college
  – Strengths and challenges
Managing Student Information
FERPA

• Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
• Do not disclose/release any student information to an individual or organization from outside Brandeis. Contact appropriate campus office immediately (General Counsel, campus police)

• For additional information and Guidelines, please visit this website:
  https://www.brandeis.edu/registrar/faculty/ferpa.html
Interacting with ICE: Universities as Sensitive Locations

- Sensitive Location: immigration enforcement is generally discouraged at institutions of higher education

- Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials may be present on campus for reasons other than enforcement (removal, raid)
  - Routine regulatory enforcement that is part of issuing international student visas
Brandeis’ Statement on Interactions with Federal Agencies

• Brandeis University will not permit immigration enforcement on our campus with respect to our students, faculty, or staff without a warrant or a clear demonstration of exigent circumstances, such as imminent risk to the health and safety of others.

• Brandeis University Public Safety officers will not act on behalf of federal agents in the enforcement of immigration laws.

• Brandeis University will not release immigration-status information with respect to students, faculty, or staff to the federal government unless mandated by court order or another valid legal instrument.

  – Shared by President Liebowitz 11/2016 and 1/2017.
What if I am approached by an individual or agency requesting information about a student’s citizenship status?
Interacting with ICE Officers

• If an immigration officer requests access to a student, take these TWO steps:
  – Ask for their name and affiliation
  – Contact campus police
Working with and Supporting Students
Our Students

• Institutions should provide clear and easy to locate information about policies and procedures related to immigration, citizenship status, and student data sharing and immigration, while proactively offering support.
Our Students

• Colleges and universities can develop non-employment work opportunities on campus as nominally funded fellowships
  – Educational fellowships, unlike an employee positions, can provide scholarship funding and stipends for students, regardless of immigration status

• Assess, modify, and build curricular and co-curricular programming, work intersectionally
Campus Resources

- Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (ODEI)
- International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO)
- Intercultural Center (ICC)
- Hiatt Career Center (HCC)
- Brandeis Counseling Center (BCC)
- We will not share names and numbers of students who are undocumented or are recipients of DACA or TPS.
Please Contact Us

• Is you are seeking consultation about how to best support our students, please reach out to the Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

• Dr. Mark Brimhall-Vargas: mbv@brandeis.edu

• Dr. Allyson Livingstone: alivingstone@brandeis.edu
References

American Immigration Council
✓ https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/research/dream-act-daca-and-other-policies-designed-protect-dreamers

American Psychological Association

Attorney General Advisory: Information for Massachusetts Colleges and Universities Center for American Progress

Illegal, Undocumented and Unauthorized: The Terms of Immigration Reporting

Pew Research

PowerPoint on supporting immigrant students and families training for Educator
✓ https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7zkvlLtoN0HcHIFakc1OVU0NFE/view

Office of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion
References

Presidents’ Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration
✓ https://www.presidentsimmigrationalliance.org/

Regarding Immigrant Students

Resource guide: Supporting Undocumented Youth – From Department of Education
✓ https://www2.ed.gov/about/overview/focus/supporting-undocumented-youth.pdf

Sanctuary Campus Toolkit and Frequently Asked Questions

The University of Texas at Austin International Office
✓ https://world.utexas.edu/undocumented/resources/understanding

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services
✓ https://www.uscis.gov/humanitarian/temporary-protected-status

University Police
✓ http://www.brandeis.edu/publicsafety/police/index.html
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