

GSO Senate Resolution 17.05

A Resolution Calling for the Declaration of Syracuse University as a Sanctuary Campus

Whereas, the Graduate Student Organization Senate recognizes the necessity to feel accepted, safe, and protected as part of the Syracuse community; and

Whereas, in a recent email to our community, Chancellor Syverud stated, "Syracuse University is built upon a deep sense of an inclusive community... a promise to include all voices, to listen to all viewpoints, and to embrace all members irrespective of race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, citizenship, disability, veteran-military status and political views;" and

Whereas, our campus is home to a diverse group of students, staff, and workers. In order to realize that goal and to uphold the University's commitment to its values of diversity and inclusion, we must act to protect those members of our community who are most at-risk and vulnerable to the anticipated policies of mass deportation; and

Whereas, members of our community are likely to be affected by the president-elect's proposed anti-immigrant policy; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the GSO calls on the Syracuse University administration to refuse to comply with immigration authorities regarding deportations or raids. Understanding that making our shared university a sanctuary is a concrete action that we can take to support and protect our students who are living in fear and uncertainty; and

Resolved, that the GSO calls on the Syracuse University Department of Public Safety to not act on behalf of federal agents to enforce immigration laws; and

Resolved, that the GSO calls for guaranteed privacy by refusing to release information regarding the immigration status of our students, staff, and community members; and

Resolved, that the GSO calls for the administrations to refuse any use of E-Verify; and

Resolved, that the GSO calls for the administration to assign an administrative office with the responsibility for counseling Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students on their educational situation and advertise that DACA student counseling services are available on a strictly confidential basis; and

Resolved, that in the event of arrest, imprisonment, and/or deportation, or due to student reluctance to travel to or appear on campus, the GSO calls on the administration to make arrangements for online continuation of their degree programs; and

Resolved, that the GSO urges that these measures are taken immediately so that DACA students can be assured of institutional support towards continuing in school next semester, retention, and completion of their degree programs; and

Resolved, that the GSO calls on the administration to invest in faculty and staff training to support undocumented students; and

Resolved, that the Syracuse University administration will respond in writing to these recommendations by the beginning of the spring semester.