

## Office of the President

## MEMORANDUM

Date: February 1, 2017

**To:** The Las Positas College Community

From: Barry A. Russell, Ph.D., President

**Re:** Statement of Support for International Students

Since 1997, Las Positas College has proudly admitted international students from all over the world. International students enrich our campus by providing a diverse perspective that helps the college achieve one of our own values, "promoting ethical behavior, tolerance and mutual respect in a diverse community."

In light of recent Executive Orders and statements by our newly elected President, it is my wish to reaffirm our support and welcome to all International and non-resident students, with or without legal documentation. We will continue to support our students in the following manner:

- Las Positas College affirms that our campus be a safe place for all students, regardless of perceived or actual national origin, citizenship or immigration status, and that all students have a right to a high quality education.
- We welcome and support students without regard to their immigration status or perceived immigration status and will continue to admit students in a manner consistent with our non-discrimination policy.
- We continue to support members of our community from all countries regardless of their faith, including students and employees from abroad because we know that we are stronger because of them.
- The college honors the dignity of each human person and appreciates and respects diversity.

 The college complies with federal regulations associated with managing its International Student Program, but does not provide information on immigration status to anyone except when required by law.

 Campus police do not inquire about or record immigration status when performing their duties.

• The enforcement of federal law lies with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

• Confidential Counseling is and will continue to be available for all students in our Counseling Department and at the Student Health and Wellness Center.

 We will continue to advocate on the behalf of all international and non-resident students, and employees for immigration and visa policies that facilitate their success in the United States.

The Las Positas College International Student Program (ISP) has been in contact with the approximately 140 International students currently on our campus, including students from the affected 7 countries. Any news regarding new regulations or policies will continue to be monitored and these students will continue to receive information on the best course of action for any future travel.

The International Student Program and Las Positas College remain committed to ensuring the well-being, safety, and success of international students at the College.

Sincerely,

Barry A. Russell, Ph.D.

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President