



Resolution No. 1617-15

A Resolution Opposing Executive Order “Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States” and Calling for a Guarantee of University Protections for International Graduate Students.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE GATHERED THAT:

- WHEREAS,** On January 27th, 2017, President Donald Trump issued an executive order entitled “Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States,” restricting travel into the United States from seven majority-Muslim countries, including Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, Sudan, Yemen, and Somalia, including travel by permanent residents of the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** Many graduate and professional students studying at the University of Missouri are among the 17,000 graduate and professional students across the nation from these aforementioned countries who shall be adversely affected by this executive order; and
- WHEREAS,** Within hours of the executive order’s enactment, graduate and professional students from a number of institutions reported being barred from re-entering the United States, putting their academic and professional careers, as well as their lives and livelihoods, at risk; and
- WHEREAS,** Affected international students at the University of Missouri face substantial difficulties under this executive order, including an inability to visit their home countries, an inability to travel outside the United States for international conferences, risk of being locked out of the United States when they return to their countries to renew their visas, and a fear of further consequences should this executive order foreshadow further action against citizens of the affected countries; and
- WHEREAS,** International graduate students make substantial contributions to the research, teaching, and service missions of the University of Missouri, enhancing the reputation of the University and enlivening its culture of inclusion and diversity; and
- WHEREAS,** This executive order will hinder the ability of the University of Missouri to attract the most talented scholars to study and work at our campus; and
- WHEREAS,** This executive order is opposed by many academic professional organizations, including the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), the National Education Association (NEA), and the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS); and
- WHEREAS,** It is the moral responsibility of the University of Missouri to protect the rights of its international students and employees to the maximum extent of the law; and
- WHEREAS,** It is the moral responsibility of this Assembly to show solidarity with its international graduate student constituency; therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** By majority vote of the General Assembly here gathered that the Graduate Professional Council does oppose this executive order; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** That the General Assembly calls upon representatives at all levels of state and federal government to oppose this executive order and demand its immediate reversal; and be it further



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RESOLVED, That the General Assembly calls upon the University of Missouri administration to issue an immediate, clear, and thorough guarantee of the rights of international students in the face of this executive order, including the full extent of the University’s legal obligations towards international students; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly calls upon the University administration to guarantee that no international student shall face an academic or financial penalty, such as loss of -or detriment to student status, due to their inability to re-enter the United States as a result of this executive order or due to any related unavoidable hindrances caused by the same; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly calls upon the University of Missouri administration to guarantee that no international student shall face a loss of assistantship, fellowship, or other University-provided financial aid or compensation due to their inability to re-enter the United States as a result of this executive order or due to any related unavoidable hindrances caused by the same; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly calls upon the University of Missouri administration to guarantee that no funding or lab positions shall be cut as a result of visa difficulties resulting from this executive order; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly calls upon the University of Missouri administration to guarantee that all faculty and staff affected by this ruling shall have their continued employment protected, including non-tenure track faculty, and that the tenure process for untenured tenure-track faculty shall not be negatively affected by this executive order; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly calls upon the Chancellor’s Office to issue a clear public statement of these guarantees, in addition to its previous statement of support for affected international students, staff, and faculty.

SUBMITTED,

Eric Scott

Andrew Amidei

Joseph Moore

Josephine Smiley

Douglas Valentine

Dawn Van Scoik