



8 September 2017

Dear Associated Students of the University of San Francisco,

On behalf of the Associated Students of the University of San Francisco, I would like to first acknowledge that undocumented folks in our community may feel in danger, unprotected, and unsafe. Our ASUSF Senate leaders hope to work tirelessly in collaboration with administration to create more transparency as we strive towards our goal of remaining “a diverse, socially responsible learning community–sustained by a faith that does justice.” We, as the Associated Students of the University, will continue to fight hateful rhetoric, oppressive actions, and the criminalization of undocumented folk.

President Trump claims that his decision to end Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) is led by his blatant concern for “the millions of Americans victimized by this unfair system” who are being “denied jobs”. ASUSF Senate will not tolerate rhetoric that further dehumanizes and desensitizes undocumented folk in this country. Since implementing the DACA program, almost 800,000 souls have been granted temporary protection through the opportunity to study and work. It makes my heart shake to say that these 800,000 individuals will lose this opportunity. This fight is not just for those affected by the removal of DACA, it is one for justice and equity for all undocumented folk.

As your president, I refuse to ignore the hateful rhetoric and actions pushed forward by Trump. He has used his privileged power to further marginalize oppressed groups in our country through unethical policy change and removal. The morality behind his actions does not reflect that of our students. Each of us paint this university to be the place of inclusion that it is and should strive to be. I am committed to advocating for the hearts of my peers and I will continue to work with the university to provide safety and amplify your narratives in all ways possible under my power.

Under the scenario that ICE agents come onto campus, we ask that students contact Public Safety to escort ICE agents off of campus. It is important to note that ICE officials also have the ability to post themselves ten feet from campus in an attempt to deport individuals once they leave campus. Though this is unlikely, due to our location in San Francisco and our church on campus, I find it imperative that our campus know exactly what will happen in order to prepare and seek additional help if necessary. Professor Hing and the Immigration Clinic at USF Law are hosting a DACA Renewal session on Sept. 15 & Sept. 16 for folks who need to renew their DACA application (last day to renew is October 5th). We must transparently explain what USF’s stance is against the removal of DACA and equip our students with the tools necessary to protect themselves.

I stand in love and solidarity with you all. I feel the pain flooding our country and I hear the testimonies showering over us. I encourage all of you to seek the emotional support you need and utilize the tools that our university has available to us. My space is always open for you, and I welcome you in any way, drowning in tears or covered in flames.

With empathy and solidarity,

Kiana Martinez, Vice President of Advocacy
Noa Hapke, Gender and Sexual Minoritized Student Representative
Amanda Agustin, Student of Color Representative

Reyna Brown, ASUSF President