DACA, International and Immigration Task Force (DII) Notes from First Meeting on February 8, 2017

The following bullet point items reflect the key points of Task Force meeting on February 8th. (Please let me know if there are any omissions or inaccuracies):

- The Task Force was provided with the history of university's responses around DACA concerns and President Trump's Executive order and travel ban from majority Muslim countries, including published letters and instances where Adelphi signed onto petitions to federal authorities
- We discussed the charge and objectives of the task force
- We discussed the rationale behind not declaring Adelphi as a sanctuary campus, acknowledging that we would have to abide by federal warrants, as the term "Sanctuary Campus" has no legal definition upon which to rely
- It was noted that the university had taken many steps in support of the immigrant community, short of a declaration of sanctuary status
- There was a discussion about whether or not the university's response was assertive enough given the gravity of the issues at hand; it was acknowledged that this concern should be coupled with action oriented steps to provide support for the international community on campus
- We acknowledged that our initial priorities should involve not only DACA students and their families, but also other undocumented immigrants who may be part of campus community
- The Task Force agreed that it should be feel unfettered in giving its views and making recommendations, separate from administrative influences
- On the matter of Task Force leadership, we remain open for a leadership structure that includes faculty, and would re-visit this discussion in the near future
- The Task Force agreed to include representation on the Task Force from the undergraduate student body
- There was some discussion about the relationship between the DII Task Force and newly formed faculty ad hoc committee on immigration; the sense of the Task Force is that the 2 groups should work collaboratively, sharing information and insights
- In terms of priorities, suggestions included assisting vulnerable faculty and students; outreach and collaboration with campus based groups concerned with these issues; using media to promote advocacy and support; publicly supporting the "Bridge Act";

and providing useful information, such as 'know your rights" sessions, to the broader community

- There was general consensus that the Task Force could develop a mechanism to collect authentic stories or film our students and others to put a personal and narrative on the situation
- It was acknowledged that we need to identify trusted individuals that vulnerable members of our community would feel safe to go to share information and seek support

Respectfully submitted by Perry & Esther February 12, 2017