



January 30, 2017

Dear Members of the University of Detroit Mercy Community:

On this past Friday, January 27, an Executive Order was issued by the White House that established new standards for immigrant, nonimmigrant and refugee entry into the United States. Titled “Protecting the Nation from Terrorist Entry into the United States,” this [Executive Order](#) has both an immediate and potential future impact on some of our students, faculty, staff and their families from the seven designated countries. Thus, we reaffirm at this time our essential mission to educate, serve and welcome everyone within our distinctive community as a Catholic university sponsored by the Jesuits and Sisters of Mercy in Detroit for 140 and 75 years, respectively. Our students’ and employees’ varied backgrounds – ethnic, racial, religious, socio-economic, gender and nationalities – are our strength as an institution and a community.

While all of the recommended responses and actions to this order are not totally clear at this time, we advise members of our community who are citizens or hold dual citizenship from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen and live in the U.S., to avoid travel outside of the continental United States during this 90-day period. If travel is required, we strongly recommend that you consult an immigration attorney.

To provide everyone with more information on this issue, we have prepared a list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) related to the Executive Order. Furthermore, for members of our University of Detroit Mercy Community who need answers to specific questions, students should contact Ms. Weihong Sun, Director, at [weihong.sun@udmercy.edu](mailto:weihong.sun@udmercy.edu) or Ms. Megan Featherstone, Associate Director, at [megan.featherstone@udmercy.edu](mailto:megan.featherstone@udmercy.edu) in the International Services Office, 313-993-1205; and faculty and staff should contact Mr. Steven Nelson, Associate Vice President for Human Resources, at [nelsonsj@udmercy.edu](mailto:nelsonsj@udmercy.edu) or 313-993-1524.

Additionally, for our DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) students, the following and previously shared [Statement of AJCU Presidents on Undocumented Students](#) reiterates our continuing support to you as members of our community.

Thank you to each and every one of you for the current and continuing support that our students and colleagues need from you and us at this time. This is the best way to demonstrably show that Detroit Mercy is a place where “all are welcome” and where respect for the dignity of each person is one of our core values.

Sincerely,

Antoine M. Garibaldi, Ph.D.  
President