Dear Campus Community,

Many people, including faculty, staff, students, and community members, have shared with me that they find recent federal actions regarding immigrants and refugees to be, at the very least, confusing, and, at the worst, alarming. I wanted to make it absolutely clear that we at UW Tacoma stand with all our students, staff and scholars, regardless of what part of the world they are from, and that certainly includes each of the countries listed in the executive order. International students and scholars are an essential and valuable part of our campus community and university resources.

As UW President Ana Mari Cauce said in her statement yesterday, “we are fully committed to providing a safe, secure and welcoming environment that protects the privacy and human rights of all members of our community.” We are one university, and our resolve is strong across all three of our campuses.

Our Office of Global Affairs and International Student Services (ISS) have been, and will continue to be, in contact with students and scholars from the seven countries listed in the U.S. presidential order. Currently the university is recommending that students from those seven countries avoid any international travel. The ISS advising team is also available to answer questions regarding international students and scholars Monday - Friday, 10a.m. - 4p.m. by appointment.

This situation does not just affect our international students and scholars. I recognize that many UW Tacoma faculty, staff and students have family members, living locally or abroad, who are citizens of the seven countries named in the presidential order. Some of you may have family or friends from these countries who are covered by DACA as well.

The best resource for up-to-date information on this changing situation is our International Student Services web page, which contains a list of additional useful resources, both on- and off-campus, which will be updated as needs and solutions are identified. Leadership Without Borders is also available to provide resources and services for undocumented students at the University of Washington.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Pagano
Chancellor