

Dear San José-Evergreen Community,

As our spring term gets underway, the political climate across the nation continues to impact the lives of many of us. Late last week, the White House issued an executive order temporarily banning entry into the United States of certain people from seven nations. While specifics of the order, how it is enforced, and its impacts are still evolving, the immediate effect on the academic community and our own colleges is greatly concerning.

As a diverse and inclusive community, the San José – Evergreen Community College District agrees wholeheartedly with California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Oakley, who stated this week: “We support the ability of all students attending our colleges to attend without fear or intimidation.” I, along with our Board of Trustees and District and College leadership, stand with members of our campus community from all nations, races, religions, and ethnic backgrounds who have been impacted by this order.

All of our students, faculty, and staff play a vital role in contributing to the wonderful diversity that helps shape our campuses and is one of the many things that make our colleges dynamic and distinctive institutions of higher education. We are stronger because of the contributions of individuals from all walks of life, all backgrounds, all genders, all sexual orientations, and certainly all geographic regions. Our values of “Opportunity, Equity, and Social Justice” are as relevant and important now as they have ever been.

Thank you for continuing to transform our students’ lives.

Sincerely,

Debbie

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