

Supporting Undocumented Students: Sharing Best Practices and Building Networks

Dr. Mariela Nuñez-Janes, Associate Professor, Anthropology

Dr. Mayra Olivares-Urueta, Vice President, Student Development
Services

Context

- Executive Orders
- TX SB 4
- Termination of DACA
- “...young Latinx learners are facing a particular kind of systemic violence that often flies under the radar. It does not raise a rifle or a voice. It inscribes a sense of despondency and wields it like a weapon.”-Carlos Martínez-Cano

Acompañamiento (Accompaniment) with Undocumented and Immigrant Students at UNT and Beyond

- **Campus Advocacy:**

- Educating administrators and the campus community about undocumented students and supporting [student-led efforts](#).

- **Community Outreach and Activism:**

- Collaborating with local organizations in KYRs, educating the educators, and participating in workshops for youth
- Leading a local effort to join the lawsuit against SB4

Outcomes

- FAQs for undocumented students
- Brief, [university statements, resources for DACA students](#)
- DACA renewal workshop
- Outreach

YOUR ROADMAP TO COLLEGE:

JUNIOR YEAR

- Begin college planning with your counselor (talk about your classes and application process)
- Start a college list
- Prepare for the SAT

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Talk to your counselor about college
- Try a new club, sport, or volunteer work
- Find or create a support group
- Talk to a college student

SENIOR YEAR

- Continue planning with your counselor (get help applying for college, ask about paying for college)
- Register and take the SAT
- Visit colleges
- Go to a financial aid event and research scholarships
- Decide where to apply, complete, and submit applications

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Talk to your counselor and/or teachers about college
- Try a new club, sport, or volunteer work
- Find or create a support group
- Search for colleges based on your interests

 **YOUR PATH STARTS HERE** 

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

If you are an undocumented student you can go to college in Texas. Undocumented students who meet the criteria with or without DACA are eligible to qualify for college in-state tuition in Texas under Senate Bill 1528. See the guidelines here:

<http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/reports/PDF/1528.PDF>

If you are going to college in Texas and qualify for SB 1528 you can apply for Texas financial aid (TAFSA):

<http://www.finaid.txstate.edu/more-info/TASFA.html>

Stay informed and know you are not alone. Connect with local organizations like the North Texas Dream Team for updates and help:

<http://www.northtexasdreamteam.org>

DEPARTMENT OF
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Tarrant County College

Thursday, February 15, 2018 District Southeast South Northeast Northwest Trinity River



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TCC says no to sanctuary campus for immigrants

February 22, 2017

By Kathryn Kelman/ne news editor



Tarrant County College
SUCCESS WITHIN REACH.

TCC will not be joining the list of declared sanctuary campuses across the nation.

A sanctuary campus is any college or university in the United States that adopts policies to protect students who are undocumented immigrants. That would contradict federal as well as Texas state law, and a district administrator said TCC will not do that.

"As a district, we must comply with the law and would not impede a federal, state or municipal official from enforcing a lawful action, even if, as individuals, we disagree with that action," vice chancellor for administration and general counsel Angela Robinson said.

Many policies have been proposed by sanctuary campuses to protect undocumented students. Refusing to allow Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers onto a campus without a warrant was one of the proposed policies at the University of North Texas, according to a petition that circulated the campus. But the petition was denied by UNT's president Neal Smatresk.

"For TCCD to designate itself as a sanctuary campus is only a symbolic label that may create a false sense of protection for any student who may have undocumented status," Robinson said.

TCC is an open college, and anyone can come on to the campus whether they have a warrant or don't have one, TCC assistant police chief Leigh Dietrich said.

As far as federal agents are concerned, she said they could call TCC police as a courtesy, but ICE officers or any other external law enforcement officers are not required to tell TCC police before coming on to campus or arresting someone.

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Leader to speak on Latino issues

September 12, 2017



Jacinto Ramos Jr.

By Raegan Scharfetter/managing editor

As part of Hispanic Heritage Month, TR Campus is presenting "Creating the Brown Space" with Jacinto Ramos Jr. 11 a.m.-noon in the Idea Store.

Ramos is a community leader who works with youth on issues around multiculturalism, community pride and building a strong cultural identity. He has worked as a youth specialist for the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Fort Worth's Comin' Up gang intervention program and now currently works as community service restitution supervisor at Tarrant County Juvenile Services.

In "Creating the Brown Space," Ramos will discuss the challenges and opportunities for improvement in the Latino community.

Ramos said there is a huge disconnect in this country and this county around Latino issues.

"The goal for 'Creating the Brown Space' is to call for action," he said. "Students, staff and faculty should not shy away from these issues. DACA recipients are looking for leadership, and TCC has not chosen to make a public statement about it. Making no action sends a message."

Student development associate Kim Nguyen said students, faculty and staff should attend to openly discuss and share their opinions about issues and learn more about the Latino culture.

"The goal is to create an open and safe space where students of all backgrounds are able to express their opinions in a productive way and allow for students to understand and gain insight into the challenges and issues that the Hispanic community faces," she said.

Students Take Action

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Students rally for DACA

September 14, 2017

Board Comment, September 2017

“I’ve heard numerous times from employees on there being little to no support for DREAMers on their respective campuses,” Perez said.

The programs offered at TCC for DREAMers have been led by outside organizations mainly using TCC facilities, Perez said.

“In fact, there have been times that employees have tried to host or develop programming for DREAMers and requested data, not private information but data only,” he said, “and the response was, ‘We want to remind you that TCC does not want to be viewed by the community as a sanctuary campus.’”

A 2015 report from the Texas Tribune and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board said TCC had the third-highest enrollment of undocumented students in the state of Texas who pay in-state tuition.

According to Perez, TCC employees have attempted to host events through TCC, and they received either pushback or no support.

“How can we meet the community where they are at, be a student-ready college and function as one college to provide a consistent and successful student experience if we cannot even have a discussion on this topic to move forward?” Perez said.

Policy does not allow the board to respond to public speakers, board president Louise Appleman said.

What had happened at this point

- TACHE DACA Night
- Event at Northwest Campus
 - Representatives from Latin American Embassies
 - Proyecto Inmigrante
 - TACHE TCC DACA Resource Guide
- Trinity River Campus email to employees
- Events on campuses around voting, DACA, and what can be done

Northeast Campus

- Explanation of lack of Comments
- Empowerment to Act
- Police
 - SB4
 - Immigration questioning

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Concerns over DACA addressed during forum

October 3, 2017

By Lana Shuck/reporter



Concerns over the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program were addressed Sept. 27 in a NE Campus forum for students, faculty and staff.

"If we don't have students, we don't have a college," said Mayra Olivares-Urueta, NE vice president for student development services, who led the discussion. She said it was "important for us to have a space to talk and really to give students an opportunity to talk."

Olivares-Urueta wanted students to understand how NE Campus supports them. Forum participants discussed student resources, current law, staff guidelines and goals moving forward. Olivares-Urueta doesn't know how many students are affected because their information isn't shared. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act prohibits the college from sharing anyone's personal information including immigration status.

NE police supervisor Lt. Terry Moak clarified responsibilities regarding DACA and Senate Bill 4, a state law that gives officers the right to ask about immigration status when they legally detain or arrest someone.

"Typically, we do not ask for immigration status on students," he said.

Racial profiling is illegal, and officers cannot ask random people or victims and witnesses about their status at a crime scene. Regarding who can be asked about immigration status, Moak said anyone breaking the law can be questioned about their status.

Outcomes

A Message from the Chancellor

Association of Community College Trustees Statement on the Termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program

David Conner | dconner@acct.org

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Today, the Trump Administration announced the rescission of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, providing a six-month window to begin winding down the program for the nearly 800,000 affected recipients. The program was instituted by the Obama Administration in 2012.

Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) President and CEO J. Noah Brown offered the following statement in response.

"DACA is of great importance to thousands of community college students throughout this country, and we are dismayed regarding the decision to terminate this program. Community colleges are open-access institutions whose mission is to educate and empower students to achieve their academic and career goals. DACA is an important asset that facilitates this mission, providing stability and economic opportunity. Terminating DACA undercuts our efforts to serve this population by creating additional barriers to postsecondary access, including the ability for some students to receive in-state tuition. It would also prevent those students in whom we've invested from obtaining legal work in this country. These students were brought to the United States at young ages, and none of them willfully violated the law in order to immigrate to this country. To revoke educational and other life opportunities for reasons beyond their control is undeserved.

"We call on Congress to act quickly to remedy this situation for those individuals profoundly affected by this action."

J. Noah Brown
ACCT President & CEO

The Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) is a non-profit educational organization of governing boards, representing more than 6,500 elected and appointed trustees who govern over 1,200 community, technical, and junior colleges in the United States and beyond. ACCT educates community and technical college trustees through annual conferences focused on leadership development and advocacy.

Outcomes Continued

Fundamental to TCC's mission is our belief that diversity and inclusion are necessary ingredients in providing the most stimulating learning and working environment possible.

Our commitment to creating and sustaining a safe, respectful, welcoming and equitable environment for all students and employees has always been and remains unwavering.

We also are committed to providing [resources](#) that not only enrich our students' academic experiences, but also support their emotional and social development. You also may wish to check with the Student Development Services office on your campus should you have a question about resources available to help you with any concern you may have.

Best wishes for every success this semester and beyond.

Outcomes Continued

- Not centralized
- Efforts happening ad hoc on each campus

Building a Network

- Ready to act and coordinate efforts? Add your name and contact information. We will contact you to build a network to share information, address challenges, and work together to support undocumented and immigrant students in our campuses
<http://bit.ly/2EulKgA>