

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

FACULTY SENATE

Sense of Senate Resolution (SSR) Number SSR0217F

Date of Senate Approval 10/05/2017

EC Resolution 2

***Sense of the Senate Resolution affirming
Faculty Assembly Resolution 2018-1 on supporting the North Carolina
Congressional delegation to create a permanent legal status for Deferred Action
for Childhood Arrival (DACA) eligible individuals***

Whereas, the Faculty Senate of UNC Asheville is in support of UNC Faculty Assembly's Resolution 2018-1 on Supporting the North Carolina Congressional delegation to create a permanent legal status for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival (DACA) eligible individuals; and

Whereas, UNC President Margaret Spellings has been public in her admiration and support for Dreamers and authored an editorial entitled, "Mr. President, don't break America's promise to 'dreamers;'" and

Whereas, The U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) [reports](#) that nearly 800,000 people have been beneficiaries of the DACA program since its inception in 2012; and

Whereas, [USCIS reports](#) that of these 800,000 people, 49,712 have been beneficiaries of DACA with residence in North Carolina since the inception of the program in 2012;

Whereas, A [2017 National DACA Study](#) conducted by T. K. Wong et al., with a sample size of 3,063 respondents in 46 states as well as the District of Columbia shows that at least 72 percent of the top 25 Fortune 500 companies employ DACA recipients; and

Whereas, The same [2017 National DACA Study](#) shows that 97 percent of respondents are currently employed or enrolled in school; and

Whereas, The [2017 National DACA Study](#) shows that by all measures, DACA recipients are having a positive impact in the economy, outpacing the general population in terms of business creation by 2% and by 5% among respondents 25 years or older; and

Whereas, Previous research has shown that DACA beneficiaries will contribute \$460.3 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product over the next decade—economic growth that would be lost were DACA be eliminated;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the UNC Asheville's Faculty Senate supports the following UNC Faculty Assembly's adopted, public statement:

“The Faculty Assembly supports the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) recipients and is troubled by the potential loss of their opportunity to continue as students in our universities. These young people embody the ideals illustrated in [“Higher Expectations: The Strategic Plan for the University of North Carolina.”](#) Their presence contributes to the Excellent and Diverse Institutions which makeup the UNC System. Their motivation, tenacity and courage are characteristics that foster Student Success and we encourage all students to possess. DACA facilitates Access to higher education and student diversity. Because of DACA, they can work, they can work and pay taxes that support our university system. Their contributions make an Economic Impact nationwide and specifically in North Carolina. They participate in all aspects of campus academic life and connect the universities of the system to various communities through Community Engagement. Our support for DACA recipients is directly aligned with the visionary approach to higher education embraced by the UNC System.

North Carolina and our nation are better off because of their presence. We demonstrate our humanity though our commitment to these DACA youth. The university is a beacon of hope for all who enter its walls and it is incumbent upon us, the faculty, to uphold the ideals that we hold true. Dreamers are an integral part of the fabric that makes our system the dynamic leader in higher education that it has been and continues to aspire to be. The Faculty Assembly implores our elected officials and all members of the North Carolina Congressional delegation to prioritize and move quickly to create a permanent legal status for DACA eligible youth.”