



ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

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NEWS RELEASE

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ACCUNET Issues Statement on Executive Order

More than 80 Catholic college and university presidents sign on to show their support

Washington, DC—The Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities released the following statement today:

As the voice of Catholic higher education, the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities expresses its strong opposition to the Executive Order signed by President Donald J. Trump concerning U.S. immigration policy. We stand in solidarity with other Catholic and higher education organizations that recognize the moral obligation of our country to assist migrants, particularly those who are fleeing any kind of persecution.

In referring to the order's halt of refugee admissions, Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of Austin, Texas, chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Migration, stated, "We believe that now more than ever, welcoming newcomers and refugees is an act of love and hope. ... We will work vigorously to ensure that refugees are humanely welcomed in collaboration with Catholic Charities, without sacrificing our security or our core values as Americans, and to ensure that families may be reunified with their loved ones." ([Read Bishop Vasquez's full statement online.](#))

[Pope Francis has said](#) that "authentic hospitality is our greatest security against hateful acts of terrorism." As ACCUNET gathers this weekend in Washington, DC to celebrate the value of diversity within Catholic higher education, we reaffirm the commitment of our institutions to creating inclusive, welcoming campus environments that embrace people of all faiths and cultures. Catholic higher education was founded precisely to serve the children of Catholic immigrants who in their own time were excluded from higher education. This is a legacy that we proudly pledge to continue.

Following release of the statement, Catholic college and university presidents in attendance at the association's [2017 Annual Meeting](#) expressed their desire to affirm the document. See the next page for the list of supporting presidents from both the United States and other countries; signatories continue to be added.

Sr. Peg Albert, OP, Siena Heights University
David A. Armstrong, Thomas More College
Lynn Babington, Fairfield University
Katherine Bergman, St. Jerome's University,
Canada
Sr. Linda Bevilacqua, OP, Barry University
Drew Bogner, Molloy College
Thomas Botzman, Misericordia University
Sr. Joanne Burrows, SC, Clarke University
Noreen Carrocci, Newman University
Donna M. Carroll, Dominican University
Janice Cervelli, Saint Mary's College (IN)
Francesco C. Cesareo, Assumption College
Arturo Chavez, Mexican American Catholic
College
Peter Cimboric, Ohio Dominican University
James E. Collins, Loras College
Greg Craven, Australian Catholic University
Thomas Curran, SJ, Rockhurst University
Barbara Q. Decker, Mercy College of Health
Sciences
Bassam M. Deeb, Trocaire College
John Denning, CSC, Stonehill College
Steven R. DiSalvo, St. Anselm College
James Dlugos, Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Chris E. Domes, Silver Lake College
James A. Donahue, Saint Mary's College of
California
Peter M. Donohue, OSA, Villanova University
Thomas M. Evans, Carroll College
Mary C. Finger, Seton Hill University
John P. Fitzgibbons, SJ, Regis University
Scott Flanagan, Edgewood College
Charles L. Flynn, Jr., College of Mount Saint
Vincent
Thomas Flynn, Alvernia University

Thomas P. Foley, Mount Aloysius College
Mary Ann Gawelek, Lourdes University
Conrado Gempesaw, St. John's University (NY)
Michael J. Graham, SJ, Xavier University (OH)
Michael A. Grandillo, Madonna University
Judith Maxwell Greig, Notre Dame de Namur
University
James T. Harris III, University of San Diego
Mary Dana Hinton, College of Saint Benedict
Br. Norman Hipps, OSB, St. Vincent College
Sharon L. Hirsh, Rosemont College
Fr. Prof. George Hobeika, LMO, Holy Spirit
University of Kaslik, Lebanon
Timothy J. Houlihan, St. Francis College
Sr. Candace Introcaso, CDP, La Roche College
Fr. George Nketze Jingwa, Catholic University
Institute of Buea, Cameroon
Laurie M. Joyner, Saint Xavier University
Sr. Anne Kilbride, OP, Albertus Magnus College
Sr. M. Elise Kriss, OSF, University of Saint
Francis (IN)
Lucas Lamadrid, Marymount California University
William J. Lennox, Jr., Saint Leo University
David J. Livingston, Lewis University
Daniel Lowery, Calumet College of St. Joseph
Ann McElaney-Johnson, Mount Saint Mary's
University, Los Angeles
Sr. Maureen McGarrity, CFSN Holy Family
University
James J. Maher, CM, Niagara University
Andrew P. Manion, Marian University (WI)
Br. William Mann, FSC, Saint Mary's University
(MN)
Suzanne K. Mellon, Carlow University
John Neuhauser, St. Michael's College
Sr. Mary Eileen O'Brien, OP, Dominican College

Brennan O'Donnell, Manhattan College
Juan Olivarez, Aquinas College (MI)
Kathleen Owens, Gwynedd Mercy University
Brother John Paige, CSC, Holy Cross College (IN)
J. Michael Pressimone, Fontbonne University
Anne M. Prisco, Felician University
Kevin P. Quinn, SJ, University of Scranton
Mary Lou Retelle, Anna Maria College
Therese Scanlan, Resurrection University
Eileen Schwalbach, Mount Mary University
Matthew Shank, Marymount University
Ronald A. Slepitz, Avila University
John Smarrelli Jr., Christian Brothers University

Maureen Smith, Laboure College
Eric F. Spina, University of Dayton
Sr. Diane Steele, SCL, University of Saint Mary
Stephen V. Sundborg, SJ, Seattle University
Msgr. Stuart W. Swetland, Donnelly College
David G. Sylvester, King's University College,
Canada
Sr. Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Chestnut Hill University
Jorge Ivan Velez-Arocho, Pontifical Catholic
University of Puerto Rico
Susan C. Wajert, Mercy College of Ohio
H. James Williams, Mount St. Joseph University
Cynthia Zane, Hilbert College

Catholic identity and mission of its member institutions so that all associated with Catholic higher education can contribute to the greater good of the world and the Church.