

February 1, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from the University of Connecticut. U.S. President Trump's executive order on immigration signed on Friday, January 27, 2017, contains several measures that directly impact our community. Global Affairs has been [tasked by UConn's President Susan Herbst](#) to lead the institutional response.

We join the many other universities that have expressed deep concern about the executive order, its human impacts, and the message it sends to the world. While direct and indirect consequences were felt across the nation and world immediately, the full impacts of the executive order have yet to become fully apparent.

The UConn community, the State of Connecticut, and the United States of America thrive on diversity and multiculturalism—our differences make us who we are as a nation. Immigration is at the core of our identity and the idea of 'America.' The executive order challenges this. UConn Professors Molly Land and Kathryn Libal from our Human Rights Institute have written an article for the *Chronicle of Higher Education* about how "[Trump is undermining Higher Education as a Global Enterprise.](#)"

Individual freedom and human rights are the foundation on which effective higher education is built. UConn is a global university and home to students, faculty, scholars and staff from more than 110 nations. We have active university partners in all world regions. The University of Connecticut's academic plan [Creating Our Future – UConn's Path to Excellence](#) underscores global citizenship and diversity as core institutional values:

"UConn will seek to understand and address the persistent challenges of human interaction: celebrating human difference and diversity while addressing harmful inequality and disparities, and achieving rights and justice. Addressing these challenges at home and abroad is central to our land grant mission."

We understand the anxiety and adverse effects that this past week has brought to many, both here at home and abroad. UConn will aggressively pursue its global mission and provide the necessary support to our community.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and our many friends and partners around the world.

Sincerely,



Daniel Weiner
Vice President for Global Affairs