February 3, 2017

The Honorable John F. Kelly
Secretary of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Kelly,

Congratulations on your confirmation as Secretary of Homeland Security. You have inherited a wide array of challenges, central among them immigration and the protection of our nation.

Our colleges and universities have been partners with the Department of Homeland Security in protecting our country since the agency’s creation. We are committed to continuing this important collaboration. It is in that spirit that we write to express our concerns about the Jan. 27, 2017 executive order and wish to set forth principles concerning the role of international students, faculty, researchers and staff on our campuses.

We take seriously the need to safeguard our nation and also the need for the United States to remain the destination of choice for the world’s best and brightest students, faculty, and scholars. International exchange is a core value and strength of American higher education. Moreover, our nation’s welcoming stance to scholars and scientists has benefited the U.S. through goodwill and a long history of scientific and technological advances that have been essential to the economic growth our country has experienced for decades. When they return home they are ambassadors for American values, democracy and the free market.

Our nation can only maintain its global scientific and economic leadership position if it encourages those talented people to come here to study and work. America is the greatest magnet for talented people from around the world and it must remain so.

We are confident that our nation can craft policies that secure us from those who wish to harm us, while welcoming those who seek to study, conduct research and scholarship, and contribute their knowledge and talents to our country. We look forward to building on our partnership with the Department to address these important issues.

Sincerely,

Adelphi University of New York
Adirondack Community College
Agnes Scott College
Albion College
Albright College
Allegheny College
Alverno College
American University
Amherst College
Anna Maria College
Antioch College
Antioch University
Antioch University Midwest
Appalachian State University
Arkansas Baptist College
Arkansas Tech University
Art Academy of Cincinnati
Ashland University
Asnuntuck Community College
Augsburg College
Augustana College
Azusa Pacific University
Baldwin Wallace University
Ball State University
Bard College
Barnard College
Barry University
Bates College
Becker College
Bemidji State University
Benedictine University
Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology
Bennett College
Bennington College
Bentley University
Berea College
Berry College
Bethel College
Bethel University
Binghamton University
Birmingham-Southern College
Black Hawk College
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
Boise State University
Boston Architectural College
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Bowie State University
Bowling Green State University
Bradley University
Brandeis University
Brenau University
Bristol Community College
Brookhaven College
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
Buffalo State College
Butler University
Cabrini University
Caldwell University
California Institute of Technology
California Institute of the Arts
California Lutheran University
California Polytechnic State University
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
California State University San Marcos
California State University, Chico
California State University, East Bay
California State University, Fresno
California State University, Fullerton
California State University, Long Beach
California State University, Monterey Bay
California State University, Northridge
California State University, Northridge
California State University, Sacramento
California State University, San Bernardino
Campbellsville University
Cape Cod Community College
Capital Community College
Capital University
Carleton College
Carlow University
Carthage College
Case Western Reserve University
Cedar Crest College
Centenary University
Central Arizona College
Central Community College
Central Connecticut State University
Central Michigan University
Central State University
Cerritos College
Chaminade University of Honolulu
Champlain College
Chapman University
Charlotte Christian College and Theological Seminary
Charter Oak State College
Clark Atlanta University
Clark State Community College
Clark University
Clarkson University
Clemson University
Cleveland State University
Coe College
Colby College
Colgate University
College of Mount Saint Vincent
College of Saint Elizabeth
College of the Atlantic
College of the Holy Cross
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Columbia College Chicago
Columbia University
Columbus College of Art & Design
Concordia College
Concordia University Texas
Connecticut State Colleges and Universities
Converse College
Cornell College
Cornell University
Corning Community College
Curry College
Daemen College
Dakota Wesleyan University
Davenport University
Davis & Elkins College
Dean College
Delaware Valley University
Delta College
Denison University
DePaul University
DePauw University
Dillard University
Dominican College of Blauvelt
Dominican University of California
Drew University
Drexel University
Drury University
Duke University
Dutchess Community College
Earlham College
East Carolina University
East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania
Eastern Michigan University
Eastern Oregon University
Eastern Washington University
Eckerd College
Edgewood College
EDP University of Puerto Rico
Elizabeth City State University
Elon University
Emmanuel College
Emory University
Empire State College
Evangel University
Excelsior College
Fairfield University
Fairleigh Dickinson University
Farmingdale State College
Felician University
Ferrum College
Finger Lakes Community College
Finlandia University
Flagler College
Florida State College at Jacksonville
Florida State University
Foothill College
Foothill-De Anza Community College District
Fordham University
Fox Valley Technical College
Framingham State University
Franklin & Marshall College
Fresno Pacific University
Friends University
Frontier Nursing University
Frostburg State University
Furman University
Gannon University
Gateway Community College
Gateway Technical College
George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Gettysburg College
Goddard College
Goshen College
Goucher College
Governors State University
Graceland University
Grand Valley State University
Grand View University
Grayson College
Greensboro College
Grossmont College
Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District
Guilford College
Gustavus Adolphus College
Guttman Community College
Gwynedd Mercy University
Hamilton College
Hamline University
Hampshire College
Hanover College
Hartwick College
Heidelberg University
Henderson State University
Hendrix College
Hiram College
Hofstra University
Hollins University
Holy Cross College at Notre Dame
Hope College
Houghton College
Howard Community College
Illinois Institute of Technology
Illinois State University
Indiana State University
Indiana Tech
Indiana University
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Indiana University South Bend
Iona College
Iowa State University
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Jamestown Community College
John Carroll University
Johns Hopkins University
Johnson & Wales University
Juniata College
Kalamazoo College
Kansas State University
Keene State College
Kent State University
Kenyon College
Knox College
La Roche College
LaGuardia Community College
Lake Erie College
Lawrence University
Lebanon Valley College
Lesley University
Lewis & Clark College
Lewis University
Le Moyne College
Lincoln University
Long Island University
Louisiana Tech University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University Chicago
Loyola University Maryland
Loyola University New Orleans
Luther College
Lycoming College
Macalester College
Manchester University
Manhattan College
Mansfield University
Maricopa Community Colleges
Marietta College
Marist College
Mars Hill University
Maryland Institute College of Art
Maryland University of Integrative Health
Marymount California University
Marymount University
Massachusetts Bay Community College
McDaniel College
Medaille College
Menlo College
Mercer County Community College in New Jersey
Meredith College
Metropolitan State University
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Miami University
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Mid Michigan Community College
Middlebury College
Millersville University of Pennsylvania
Millsaps College
Minnesota State University, Mankato
Minnesota State University, Moorhead
Mississippi College
Missouri University of Science and Technology
Molloy College
Monroe Community College
Montana State University Billings
Montclair State University
Morgan State University
Mott Community College
Mount Ida College
Mount Mary University
Mount Saint Mary's University, Los Angeles
Mount St. Joseph University
Mount Wachusett Community College
Mt. Hood Community College
Nassau Community College
Naugatuck Valley Community College
Nazareth College
NC State University
Nebraska Wesleyan University
New Jersey City University
New York University
Newbury College
Newman University
Niagara University
Norfolk State University
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
North Central College
North Dakota State University
North Seattle College
Northeastern Illinois University
Northeastern University
Northern Arizona University
Northern Illinois University
Northwest Missouri State University
Northwestern Connecticut Community College
Northwestern University
Norwalk Community College
Notre Dame College
Notre Dame de Namur University
Notre Dame of Maryland University
Nova Southeastern University
Oberlin College & Conservatory
Oglethorpe University
Ohio Dominican University
Ohio Northern University
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Oklahoma State University
Orange Coast College
Orange County Community College
Oregon College of Art and Craft
Oregon State University
Otterbein University
Pace University
Penn State University
Pepperdine University
Pfeiffer University
Piedmont College
Pima Community College District
Plymouth State University
Point Loma Nazarene University
Pomona College
Portland Community College
Portland State University
Pratt Institute
Providence College
Purchase College
Purdue University
Queensborough Community College
Quincy University
Quinsigamond Community College
Ramapo College of New Jersey
Randolph College
Reed College
Regis University
Rhode Island School of Design
Rhodes College
Rice University
Rider University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rockford University
Rockland Community College
Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions
Roosevelt University
Rowan University
Rutgers University
Rutgers University-Newark
Saint Anselm College
Saint Leo University
Saint Louis University
Saint Mary's College
Saint Peter's University
Salve Regina University
Samuel Merritt University
San Diego State University
San Jose State University
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Seattle Colleges
Seattle University
Seton Hill University
Shenandoah University
Shimer College
Shoreline Community College
Simmons College
Simpson College
Skagit Valley College
Smith College
Sonoma State University
Southern Connecticut State University
Southern Illinois University System
Southern Methodist University
Southern New Hampshire University
The College of New Jersey
The College of Saint Rose
The College of Wooster
The New School
The Ohio State University
The State University of New York
The University of Arizona
The University of Bridgeport
The University of Missouri
The University of New Mexico
The University of North Carolina System
The University of Texas at Arlington
The University of Texas at Austin
The University of the South
The University of Toledo
The University of Vermont
The University of Washington
Three Rivers Community College
Tiffin University
Towson University
Trinity College
Trinity University
Trinity Washington University
Truman State University
Tufts University
Tulane University
Tusculum College
Tuskegee University
UNC Chapel Hill
Union College
Union County College
Union Institute & University
University at Albany, SUNY
University at Buffalo
University of Arkansas
University of British Columbia
University of Bridgeport
University of California, Merced
University of California, Riverside
University of California, San Diego
University of Central Missouri
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Colorado System
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of Saint Mary
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of South Carolina
University of South Florida System
University of Southern California
University of St. Thomas
University of Tennessee System
University of the Pacific
University of Virginia
University of West Florida
University of Western States
University of Wisconsin Colleges and University of Wisconsin-Extension
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin-Platteville
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
University System of Maryland
Ursuline College
Utica College
Valparaiso University
Vanderbilt University
Ventura County Community College District
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University & Health System
Virginia Tech
Virginia Wesleyan College
Wabash College
Wagner College
Wake Forest University
Washburn University
Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
Weber State University
Webster University
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
West Virginia State University
West Virginia University
Western Carolina University
Western Connecticut State University
Western Michigan University
Western New England University
Western Oregon University
Western University of Health Sciences
Western Washington University
Westfield State University
Westminster College
Westminster College, Utah
Westmont College
Whatcom Community College
Wheaton College Massachusetts
Wheelock College
Whitman College
Whittier College
Willamette University
William & Mary
William James College
William Jewell College
Williams College
Wilmington College
Winona State University
Winthrop University
Wittenberg University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Xavier University
Xavier University of Louisiana
Yakima Valley College
Yale University