

2020 – 2021 **Inter-Professional Council** student government for professional students at The Ohio State University dental • law • medicine • optometry • pharmacy • vet medicine

Fellow Professional Students:

This past week, Immigration and Customs Enforcement [ICE] released a statement outlining new requirements in regard to student visas as institutions transition to online learning. **The proposed plan would have required all international students to leave the country within 14 days if coursework transitions to an online format due to the COVID-19 pandemic.** This new requirement was inherently harmful and threatened the rights of our international student population.

Since then, the University joined an amicus brief in support of the lawsuit filed by Harvard and MIT in opposition to ICE's changes. The amicus brief allowed the University, as an institution that is home to thousands of international students, to voice its concerns in opposition to the case. We are happy to report that as of today, 7/14/2020, ICE's proposed policy changes have been rescinded.

The Inter-Professional Council [IPC] stands with our international students and is here to provide support in any way. It should not take a federal lawsuit and amicus briefs to ensure that international students are treated justly.

We encourage all students to reach out to their senators with on-going concerns or to contact us via our web page: <u>https://ipc.osu.edu/connect/contact-us</u>.

Senators to Contact

Law: Shea Daley.144 Pharmacy: Zachary Dougherty.244 Veterinary Medicine: Sophie Cressman.9 Optometry: Fareedah Haroun.3 Dental: Mihail Ocrainiciuc.2 Medicine: Bianca Arellano (Bianca.arellano@osumc.edu)

The Open Letter written by international students can be found at: <u>http://go.osu.edu/standwithus/</u>

The statement from the University can be found at: <u>https://news.osu.edu/statement-on-federal-restrictions-on-international-students/</u>

Sincerely,

Jordan Vajda, MA, MDiv (he/him) President jordan.vajda@osumc.edu Shivani Patel (she/hers) Executive Vice President patel.2152@buckeyemail.osu.edu