September 27, 2017

Statement from the Executive Council of the Latina/o Studies Association (LSA) regarding the Rescission of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program

The Latina/o Studies Association (LSA) denounces the Trump Administration’s September 5, 2017, decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program. DACA provides approximately 800,000 young immigrants across the United States with temporary, renewable authorization to live, study, and work “legally” in the United States, and is set to expire by presidential order on March 5, 2018. The revocation of DACA is only the most recent and most egregious attack on communities of color and others in the United States.

Since assuming office, the Trump Administration has failed to act in good faith and will toward Latinxs and others. From verbally attacking Mexicans at the presidential launch, banning Muslims and others from entry into the United States, barring military recruitment of transgender people, and threatening to build the Wall at the U.S. Mexico border to the proposed deportation of young DACAmented immigrants, President Trump has given us little reason to be confident about his treatment of our communities. We cannot stay silent before such blatant acts of ethnocentrism, racism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, and misogyny. We say basta ya to vilifying and attacking our communities.

We call on all the LSA membership to:

- Stand in solidarity with DACA recipients and others under attack by the Trump Administration;
- Support DACA through various channels, including social media #Resist #DefendDACA #HereToStay;
- Call Congress members and the Attorney General of the United States and urge them to vote in favor of a bipartisan stand-alone DREAM Act without walls or further border enforcement and to work toward comprehensive immigration reform;
- Hold our local institutions, organizations, employers, governments, and communities accountable for protecting DACA recipients and other vulnerable groups and for providing necessary information, resources, and services to them and the public.

On behalf of the LSA—the premier national academic organization representing scholars, activists, and others working on Latinx issues—the Executive Council pledges to do whatever we can to get real protections in place for DREAMers. DREAMers’ success is everyone’s success. DREAMers’ losses are our loss. We all have something to lose should DACA protections disappear.