

Fw: Important victory but still more to do

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To: users-adm <users-adm@wcsu.edu>; users-aca <users-aca@wcsu.edu>; users-stu <users-stu@wcsu.edu>

Dear Campus Community:

Please read President Ojakian's message regarding today's welcome and encouraging news about our DACA students. We will continue to protect our students and their well-being, and their opportunity to pursue an education at Western Connecticut State University. Let's keep up the fight for educational opportunity for DACA and all our students.

Dr. John B. Clark
President
Western Connecticut State University

From: CSCU-President <CSCU-President@ct.edu>

Sent: Thursday, June 18, 2020 12:40 PM

To: CSCU-President <CSCU-President@ct.edu>

Subject: Important victory but still more to do

Dear CSCU Community,

As you have probably seen, the Supreme Court of the United States this morning ruled that President Trump's 2017 decision to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program was illegal. By upholding the program, the court provided protection from deportation for nearly 700,000 individuals, including hundreds of our students. While this is unquestionably good news, it does not go nearly far enough to grant legal status to the immigrants who are Americans in every way except on paper.

We as a system will continue to work with our federal delegation to advocate for a pathway to citizenship or full legal status for our undocumented students, just as we will continue to fight against unnecessary and politically motivated attacks on our students' humanity from the current federal administration.

To our undocumented students, you are valued members of our community. I see you. I hear you. I stand with you.

May today's ruling give you some sense of relief – and redouble our resolve to create real and lasting change.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Ojakian

P.S. I would be remiss if I didn't thank our former attorney general, George Jepsen, and our current attorney general, William Tong, for their steadfast advocacy on behalf of our students who are DACA

recipients in the court system. Their hard work paid off today, and I appreciate their support.