BROOKLYN COLLEGE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

FACULTY COUNCIL

December 6, 2016

Resolution on Sanctuary Status at Brooklyn College

Whereas Brooklyn College has, "Throughout its history, been a place that has welcomed students excluded elsewhere, including those from lower socio-economic backgrounds, those who are first in their families to attend college, and immigrants from around the globe" (Anderson, Nov. 15, 2016):

Whereas upon the electoral victory of Donald Trump, Governor Cuomo stated "So let me be absolutely clear: If anyone feels that they are under attack, I want them to know that the state of New York – the state that has the Statue of Liberty in its harbor – is their refuge" (Nov 12);

Whereas the City University of New York (CUNY) has reiterated its unwavering support of immigrants as core to CUNY's mission (Milliken Nov 18);

Whereas Brooklyn College, CUNY students have already expressed to faculty, staff, administrators, student organization and club officers and representatives, their heightened fear and anxiety about the future, based on President-elect Trump's plan for building walls, increasing deportations, initiating a Muslim registry and repealing DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals);

Whereas a petition is already circulating with over 400 signatures expressing support for urgently declaring our university, a sanctuary space, one where we limit cooperation with federal immigration authorities so as to shield our students, staff, and faculty from detainment and deportation;

Whereas sanctuary status would include a commitment not to share records with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that may identify the immigration status of students or campus workers, prevent campus police and security from acting on behalf of federal immigration authorities, and prohibit these authorities from entering campus without a warrant;

Be it resolved that the Faculty Council of Brooklyn College requests the college administration to immediately declare Brooklyn College a "sanctuary campus" and to exercise its authority to the extent allowed by law to protect our students, staff and faculty from intimidation, investigation, surveillance, deportation and other attacks while on campus;

Be it further resolved that we urge the University Faculty Senate (UFS) to adopt a resolution making the entire university a "sanctuary campus" system; and,

Be it further resolved that we call on President Anderson to urge Chancellor Milliken to strengthen his public statements advocating for immigrants at CUNY by declaring the entire CUNY system a sanctuary.