



Re: Weinberg College | Our international community

From Jacqueline Stevens <jacqueline-stevens@northwestern.edu>

Date Mon 6/2/2025 6:09 PM

To Adrian WB Randolph <weinberg-dean@northwestern.edu>; Northwestern President <nupresident@northwestern.edu>; Stephanie Mills Graham <smg@northwestern.edu>; Sara Thurston <sara.thurston@northwestern.edu>

 1 attachment (438 KB)

AAUP_letter_to_OGCs_5-20-25.pdf;

Dear Dean Randolph, President Schill, Director Thurston, and General Counsel Graham,

I write in my capacity as the President of the Northwestern chapter of the American Association of University Professors, and with the expertise of the founder of the Deportation Research Clinic.

The gap between what we need to resist this unlawful regime and the statements of the NU leadership continues to expand. In recent days the Northwestern administration has sent more summaries of media headlines about international student visas and statements about "monitoring," along the lines of Dean Randolph's email below, with little assurance of any concrete assistance to those affected.

On behalf of the AAUP national office, I attach a letter offering legal guidance as to how Northwestern can step up and protect our international students and faculty.

Among other measures, the AAUP requests that NU pay for or make available legal counsel to those in our community affected by recent orders about withholding or withdrawing visas, and that NU continue to house affected students

"[T]he provision of good faith legal advice is not only essential to the basic functioning of the legal system," the letter notes, "but it is also very likely constitutionally protected expression." Further, organizations honoring existing residential contracts are not culpable of deliberately concealing students, and "federal courts have held uniformly that renting housing to a person in the ordinary course of business does not violate federal harboring law." There are numerous other considerations the letter covers, along with policy advisals on behalf of academic freedom contrary to the path Northwestern is now taking.

It is obvious that the marching orders for this campus are coming from a small number of high net worth individuals at NU and elsewhere. Their advice has not been legally sound, as we saw in the case of Congress withdrawing its requests about Professor Sheila Bedi and her law clinic after her suit seeking a TRO, not to mention numerous student deportation cases across the country in which courts have thwarted the ambitions of the Trump administration.

I hope you will reconsider your current path and adopt the policies of the AAUP as well as your own faculty, as passed by the Faculty Assembly on April 21, 2025.

Thank you,
Jackie (Stevens)
President
NU AAUP

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"Don't deter the huddled masses. Deter private prison kleptocrats who profit off them," News Tribune - McClatchy, July 11, 2024, <https://www.thenewstribune.com/opinion/article289849389.html#storylink=cpy>

"Solidarities of Citizenship," Frontiers of Political Science, 2023 <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpos.2023.1141774/full>

From: Adrian Randolph <weinberg-dean@northwestern.edu>
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2025 10:38 AM
To: Jacqueline Stevens
Subject: Weinberg College | Our international community

Dear Weinberg College community,

Weinberg College is at its core international. About a third of our faculty members study non-US cultures, our curriculum is global, and our research enterprise depends on international travel and exchange. Our international reach is essential to our mission. It is who we are.

This includes the international undergraduate and graduate students who expand the range of viewpoints in our classrooms, enrich our community culturally, and whose presence embodies the exchanges that are so much a part of our intellectual lives.

As you may have seen this week, the U.S. Department of State has paused scheduling interviews for new student visas <https://bulkmail.northwestern.edu/trk/click?ref=zstwe3vud_3-fca3x32b2cfx03586&> and announced plans to further scrutinize current and future student visa holders and applicants from China and Hong Kong<<https://bulkmail.northwestern.edu/trk/>

[click?ref=zstwe3vud_3-fca3x32b2e3x03586&](https://bulkmail.northwestern.edu/trk/click?ref=zstwe3vud_3-fca3x32b2e3x03586&)>.

These developments are deeply troubling. We are monitoring and seeking to better understand these changes in federal policy enforcement, particularly as we consider the safety and well-being of international students in our community, and the impact these changes may have on their academic progress.

Last night, current <https://bulkmail.northwestern.edu/trk/click?ref=zstwe3vud_3-fca3x32b2e4x03586&> and incoming <https://bulkmail.northwestern.edu/trk/click?ref=zstwe3vud_3-fca3x32b2d1x03586&> international students received updates from the Office of International Student and Scholar Services<https://bulkmail.northwestern.edu/trk/click?ref=zstwe3vud_3-fca3x32b2d2x03586&>. Students should contact that office with questions and should talk with their academic adviser about concerns relating to their studies. Academic departments should consult with the Office of the Dean prior to formalizing any academic continuity plans to ensure compliance with University policy and federal law.

In the meantime, we will continue to share information as we are able and, more broadly, we will adhere to our values.

Adrian Randolph

Dean

HW Rogers Professor of the Humanities

Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences

Northwestern University

Weinberg College News Center<https://bulkmail.northwestern.edu/trk/click?ref=zstwe3vud_3-fca3x320f72x03586&>