



TO: University Community

FROM: Richard J. Helldobler, Interim President

DATE: January 30, 2017

RE: U.S. President's executive order on immigration and travel ban

Since it was signed on Friday, President Trump's executive order to restrict those from seven predominantly Muslim countries from entering the U.S. is causing a lot of understandable anger and anxiety, especially in Chicago where many are expressing frustration over the temporary detention of more than a dozen people at O'Hare airport.

Religious discrimination is unconstitutional, and Northeastern Illinois University strongly stands against it. Let us all take extra time this week to engage those who are or might feel marginalized by this action. Let them know we value them as part of our diverse community and their presence enriches the Northeastern experience.

These are highly chaotic times for members of our University Community. Regardless of your religion or immigration status, Northeastern will be here to help you in any way that we can. I welcome the opportunity to speak with any student, staff or faculty member about this later today at 1 p.m. during an open office hour at the President's Conference Room on the second floor of the C Building.