

Notes from CSSA September 2017

A huge topic this weekend was the effects of the DACA repeal on the CSUs. Although we cannot come up with a permanent solution on our own, there is so much that we can do to make life a little easier for our peers who are struggling. Below are my notes from the meeting:

- Invite students to board meetings
 - Make sure to not ask for a lot of information about the students because they may not want their information being gathered.
- Safe Space
 - It may be nice for students to have a place where they feel absolutely safe.
 - For example, they may not want this place to be public. They don't want everyone to know where they are meeting.
 - They would also like no information to be gathered at this place.
- Legal services
 - Provide a legal clinic for DACA recipients.
 - Start a student legal support center.
 - This is a safe place where students can feel comfortable asking questions about legal information.
 - Hold a "Know Your Rights" training.
 - Always be very careful that you are not making others information more known.
- Financial Aid
 - Campus Jobs
 - How can we make sure that students can keep their campus jobs?
 - Some schools suggested giving students Pre-paid visa cards for their work instead of keeping them on the payroll.
 - Avoid as much paperwork as possible.
- Express Support
 - Make sure students know their civil rights.
 - Something that may be helpful is having red cards for students.
 - Red cards provide information in English and other languages and explain what to do if confronted by ICE.
 - Know that the DACA repeal does not only affect students.
 - This affects everyone. It could be co-worker, friends, faculty members or anyone in our community. It is important to make sure that you are expressing support for everyone.

During Legislative affairs committee a few bills were brought up that could help Dreamers. A couple were, the Bridge Act, Recognizing America's Children Act (RACA), the Hope Act, and the Dream Act. Something the CSSA Board suggested was having everyone call the California representatives all within the same hours to bring as much attention to these acts as possible.

During the civic engagement committee, the CSSA board explained that they created a great website that makes voter registration even easier. They also stated that they have a ton of information they can provide to Lobby Corps on how to effectively run a Lobby Corp.

Lastly, something I found very interesting this weekend was a presentation on “Swipe Out Hunger”. When implemented correctly, students in residence halls can donate extra meal points to students in need. Students would need to start a chapter. Once the chapter is started, “Swipe Out Hunger” will provide the information and help needed to get the university to make this possible. This is a nationally known organization that brought a lot of attention to the White House when Obama was President. More information can be found at <http://www.swipehunger.org>.