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June 10, 2021

The Honorable Jung H. Pak
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs

The Honorable Ian Brownlee
Acting Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Consular Affairs

The Honorable C.S. Eliot Kang
Acting Assistant Secretary
Bureau of International Security and
Nonproliferation

The Honorable Matthew Lussenhop
Acting Assistant Secretary
Bureau of Educational and Cultural
Affairs

U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Pak, Acting Assistant Secretary Brownlee, Acting Assistant Secretary Kang, and Acting Assistant Secretary Lussenhop,

On behalf of the undersigned higher education associations, I write regarding the application of Presidential Proclamation 10043, "Suspension of Entry as Nonimmigrants of Certain Students and Researchers from the People's Republic of China."¹

The proclamation was issued in June 2020, and applies to existing and new visas. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, new visas were largely not being processed at that time. That means we only saw the impact on existing visas, when more than 1,000 visas to Chinese graduate students were revoked. Now that consulates are starting to reopen in China, and international students are beginning to see visa processing resume, we have heard troubling reports of this proclamation being applied very broadly.

Colleges and universities fully support efforts by the federal government to identify and address threats to our national security. If the government identifies serious security concerns with individuals seeking visas, we do not want them on campus. However, as the start of the fall semester approaches these students and their sponsoring U.S. colleges and universities are becoming increasingly concerned that a broad application of Presidential Proclamation 10043 is causing delays in students' academic careers and critical projects.

When the proclamation was issued in 2020, the State Department provided a briefing for higher education associations regarding its implementation, specifically from representatives

¹ <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/04/2020-12217/suspension-of-entry-as-nonimmigrants-of-certain-students-and-researchers-from-the-peoples-republic>

of the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, the Office of Consular Affairs, and the Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation. We ask once again for a briefing from State so we can understand the implications of PP 10043 on our international students and scholars. We look forward to continuing to work with you to ensure our international students can travel to the United States for the upcoming academic year.

Sincerely,



Ted Mitchell
President

On behalf of:

Alliance for International Exchange
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
American Association of State Colleges and Universities
American Association of University Professors
American College Personnel Association
American Council on Education
American Dental Education Association
APPA, "Leadership in Educational Facilities"
Association for University and College Counseling Center Directors
Association of American Colleges and Universities
Association of American Universities
Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges
Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities
Association of Independent Colleges & Universities in Massachusetts
Association of Independent Colleges & Universities of Pennsylvania
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Rhode Island
Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area
Council for Advancement and Support of Education
Council on Governmental Relations
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of Independent Colleges
EnglishUSA
ETS
Great Lakes Colleges Association
Higher Education Consultants Association
Middle States Commission on Higher Education

NAFSA: Association of International Educators
NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of Colleges and Employers
National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities
Presidents' Alliance on Higher Education and Immigration
State Higher Education Executive Officers Association
Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities