

**DATE:** November 30, 2016  
**TO:** Kingsborough Community College Family  
**FROM:** Farley Herzek  
**RE:** Our Commitment to a Safe and Welcoming Place

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In recent weeks, there have been many news reports about the impact of the incoming presidential administration's focus on immigration. News headlines and social media posts consistently permeate our daily routines and continue to fuel rumors and discussions about plans to remove undocumented immigrants from the United States and return them to their respective homelands.

Undoubtedly, millions of immigrants and their families would be affected by such a measure, including the many thousands of individuals enrolled in educational institutions throughout the United States, including those who are enrolled at our CUNY schools.

Amid the sense of vulnerability and fear that many of our own students feel for themselves and their families, I want to assure you all that Kingsborough is committed to remaining a safe, welcoming, and accepting space for all of our faculty, staff, and students.

While we cannot be certain about what may occur, I will reiterate some of what Chancellor Milliken said in his message shortly after the November 8 election.

“We will strive to keep CUNY’s 170-year old mission alive by providing opportunity to immigrants and low income and underrepresented students. This will not change, and the city and the country will be much better for it. Our students bring ambition, talent, and dreams and they contribute immeasurably to making New York the world’s greatest city.”

I, along with our committed faculty, staff, administrators and our many, many friends continue to support our students. We will continue to provide a place where everyone is welcome, and where everyone has an opportunity to create and live their own American dream.

## OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

My father was liberated from a concentration camp and fled war-torn Europe after World War II. He came to New York City seeking the American Dream. Like so many of our students, he spent a lot of time on trains and buses, learned English, and worked hard to support his family. It is because of the way he was welcomed and supported that I am a CUNY graduate.

I attended Brooklyn College and the City College of New York. I would not be your college president if someone did not stand up for my father and the many other immigrants of that era.

I promise you, I will always stand up for students and give my unwavering support!