



Division of Student Affairs

5500 North St. Louis Avenue Chicago, IL 60625-4699

> Phone: (773) 442-4600 Fax: (773) 442-4605

April 9, 2014

Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) is committed to making a welcoming and inclusive environment for undocumented students. Our development of the Undocumented Student Project exemplifies NEIU's commitment to diversity, belief in access to opportunity, dedication to empowerment through learning and commitment to preparing students to live and work in a global society.

The University recognizes that our immigrant student population will continue to grow and change. It is estimated that 65,000 undocumented students graduate from high schools across the United States each year. We also recognize that although undocumented students have many of the same dreams and goals as their United States citizen peers, they often face unique challenges and barriers.

It is important that Northeastern Illinois University provides a supportive environment for all of our students. In development of our Undocumented Students Project, the Division of Student Affairs has collaborated with many University partners, legal experts and community organizations to ensure that our campus has the resources necessary to help our undocumented students be successful in their educational pursuits. Our goal is to not only improve knowledge and awareness of issues affecting undocumented students but also to provide faculty and staff with information and resources so that they too can "come out" in support of our undocumented student population.

I am proud to come out in support of undocumented students at NEIU and nationwide,

Frank E. Ross III, Ph.D.

Vice President for Student Affairs

Northeastern Illinois University