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SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

3375 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, California 92108-3883
619-388-6500

CITY COLLEGE | MESA COLLEGE | MIRAMAR COLLEGE | CONTINUING EDUCATION
Student Services

United Student Council Feedback on DACA

During the September 7, 2017 USC meeting, the student trustee's had a passionate and inspirational discussion about recent changes to the DACA program. Joseph Newell, Student Trustee, invited student leaders from the Mesa Raising Immigrant Scholar through Education (RISE) club to attend the meeting.

These are some of the concerns and ideas that were discussed:

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- Students are concerned that changes to the DACA program may have caused many DACA students to stop attending classes after the add/drop deadline which could be detrimental to those students' academic records.
- Students discussed the possibility of the District offering \$500 scholarships/grants to current DACA students who are within the approved time period to reapply for DACA. Apparently it cost about \$500 to file for a DACA extension.
- Students discussed having Informational/Know Your Rights sessions at each campus where students, faculty and staff could learn more about how the executive order may affect DACA students and also learn the differences between the various laws and statues, (DACA AB540, Dream Act, etc.).
- Members of the RISE club expressed concern that there has not been discussion of DACA at Miramar and are concerned that DACA students at Miramar may not know where the safe spaces are on campus to discuss such issues.
- The groups suggested creating stickers similar to "Safe Zone" stickers to display in places where students are safe to disclose their status and/or seek help.

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Overall, the students were very grateful toward the Districts' support and leadership in addressing the issue.