

To: All Administrators, Faculty, Staff, and Students

From: Charles L. Flynn, Jo

Date: February 1, 2017

Subject: Immigration and Visa Questions

Federal immigration policy is in upheaval and a swirl of controversy. A number of administrators, faculty, and students have been asking about College policy.

A recent Executive Order blocks entry to the United States for all refugees for 120 days, indefinitely for Syrian refugees. This order also blocks entry to the United States for 90 days for all citizens of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen, including holders of student visas.

Mount Saint Vincent does not currently have students or employees affected by this order.

Mount Saint Vincent approves loans only for people legally eligible to receive them. The College awards TAP and Pell grants only for students legally eligible to receive them. The College chooses not to track whether a student or a student's parents are undocumented. In any case, it has long been College policy only to release information about a student with the student's written permission or upon the presentation of a valid warrant.

Some institutions have declared themselves sanctuary campuses. It is not clear what this means. The College has not made such a declaration.

Consistent with the advice of national professional associations and until federal policies are clear, Mount Saint Vincent advises faculty, administrators, and students holding green cards or visas not to travel outside the United States. If in following this advice any students, faculty, or staff need special accommodations, the College will make appropriate arrangements.

All members of this academic community should be at home here, and we will assist every Mountie in every possible way.