

Ideas and Initiatives in Response to Trump's Ban

Compiled by Grace Tran
in preparation for Townhall Meeting
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Overview and Breakdown of Initiatives and Actions

Type of Action/Initiative	Count
1. Waiver of Deadlines/application fees for applicants from listed countries'	6: Memorial University, U of T, U of Ottawa, Brock University, University of Calgary, Queen's University
2. Temporary 'refuge' in the form of space and resources for stranded scholars	4: Science Solidarity List (involves multiple universities across Canada and the U.S.), U of T, U of Ottawa, Brock University
3. Conference/workshop relocation	1: U of T (Faculty of Law)
4. Enlarged visiting scholars and scholars-at-risk programs	3: U of T, Glendon College, University of Ottawa
5. Student-Led Initiatives	2: All 22 law schools across Canada; University of Ottawa
6. Immigration and Visa advising	3: Simon Fraser; Memorial University; University of Windsor
7. Extra financial assistance	2: Brock University; Memorial University

1. Waiver of Deadlines/application fees for applicants from listed countries

1. Memorial University

Action Taken: Waived application fees for students from affected countries (and has received overwhelming response)

Date: Jan. 30, 2017

Relevant text:

“We are waiving application fees for students from the seven countries affected, which include Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen for a 90-day period. At this time we will also waive application fees for students from the U.S. To learn more, please get in touch with the Office of the Registrar here, by emailing registrar@mun.ca”

Link: <https://gazette.mun.ca/campus-and-community/statement-from-memorial/>

2. University of Toronto, Faculty of Law

Action Taken: JD applications deadline extended in light of US situation

Date: January 31, 2017

Relevant text:

“If you are affected directly or indirectly by the US-based travel ban, or if you have changed your mind about attending a US law school, and are now considering attending a Canadian one, please note we have extended the deadline for JD applications here at the Faculty of Law.

Please contact our Admissions Office, law.admissions@utoronto.ca, for further information, and to make your late application request. Transfer applications for upper year students will also be considered.

The deadline will be extended until further notice.”

Link: <http://www.law.utoronto.ca/news/nb-jd-applications-deadline-extended-in-light-us-situation>

See also: Message from Dean Ed Iacobucci on recent events in the United States and Quebec and Faculty of Law's response to it

Action taken: Posted both online and on social media the faculty's willingness to consider late applications from prospective students who may be affected by travel ban

Date: January 31, 2017

"President Meric Gertler issued a statement yesterday expressing dismay at recent events in the United States. He spoke on behalf of all of us when he said that discrimination on the basis of nationality or birthplace is antithetical to the University of Toronto's, and indeed Canada's values. At the Faculty of Law, we have a special responsibility to champion the rule of law. This week's seemingly cavalier dismissals of international norms and shared legal understandings by the U.S. President are especially troubling for our community. Our thoughts are also with the Muslim community and Quebecers over the recent murders in Quebec. For President Gertler's comments on the Quebec tragedy, please see the following link.

In respect of events in the U.S., I want to let you know about a few Faculty of Law initiatives in response. **For one, we have posted on social media and online our willingness to consider late applications from prospective students who may be affected, directly or indirectly, by the travel ban to the U.S. We have also reached out to some Canadian JD students in the U.S. who may wish to transfer to U of T in light of recent events. For another, we learned yesterday about a planned conference at Columbia Law School in New York in March that involves Yemeni colleagues who are now banned from travel to the U.S. Out of basic collegiality, and also to offer a concrete manifestation of our rejection of careless, heavy-handed, and intolerant approaches to national security, we have offered to host the workshop at the Faculty and are working with our colleagues at Columbia to see whether this is feasible. Finally, we are in the midst of organizing a panel discussion at the Faculty on the legal ramifications of the U.S. President's recent decisions – stay tuned for further details.**

I know that many of you are also engaging in ways small and large. Universities are grounded on the simple, incontrovertible premise that ideas matter. Our community, and others, will continue to provide great and good ideas to counter the small and the bad.

Best,
Ed

Edward Iacobucci
Dean and James M. Tory Professor of Law
University of Toronto Faculty of Law"

Link: <http://www.law.utoronto.ca/news/message-dean-ed-iacobucci-quebec-attack-and-us-travel-ban>

University of Toronto, School of Graduate Studies

Action taken: Waived application fees, and extended both academic deadlines for current students and international admission deadlines for prospective students from seven countries affected

Date: Feb 3., 2017

Relevant Text:

From email “Re: Travel Restrictions” Sent to Graduate Deans, Graduate Chairs, and Graduate Administrators by University of Toronto’s Dean Locke Rowe of School of Graduate Students

“ Please be assured that the School of Graduate Studies will support graduate units in any or all of the following initiatives:

- **Waiving an application fee for new students applying from the seven countries most directly affected by the travel restrictions (Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen);**
- **Extending your unit’s International admission deadlines; and**
- **Extending academic deadlines for current students impacted by such restrictions.**

The SGS Admissions and International Student Advisor (sgs.international@utoronto.ca) and SGS Student Services will work closely with you and your unit to accommodate your requests.

As previously communicated, we also encourage graduate administrators with students whose Final Oral Examinations may be impacted by students or examiners unable or unwilling to travel to contact the School of Graduate Studies Doctoral Exams Office (sgs.doctoral@utoronto.ca) so that alternative arrangements can be made.”

3. University of Ottawa

Action taken: Implemented tuition fee exemption program for students from the affected countries currently studying in the U.S.

Date: Feb 1., 2017

Relevant Text:

"For students from the affected countries currently studying in the U.S., we will:

...Implement a **tuition fee exemption** program to allow students to pursue their studies in the fall semester at the same tuition rates as Canadian students"

Link: <https://www.uottawa.ca/gazette/en/news/university-ottawa-announces-measures-assist-students-and-academics-affected-us-travel>

4. Brock University

Action Taken: Waived application fees for admissions and residence, **accelerated admissions for academically qualified students holding passports from the listed countries, cut tuition deposits by 50% (*Grace's note: It seems like Brock is the first university and perhaps the only one to have done this so far), provided a \$1000 "transition award" (*Grace's note: ditto on this)** to help students get to Brock's main campus in Niagara, assess current university studies for use as transfer credits, **guarantee residence spaces for the upcoming spring, summer and fall terms.**

Date: Feb. 2, 2017

Link: <https://brocku.ca/brock-news/2017/02/brock-offers-help-to-foreign-students-stranded-by-u-s-ban/>

5. University of Calgary

Action Taken: Waived admission application fees for citizens of the 7 countries affected by U.S. travel ban.

Date: Feb. 2, 2017

Relevant Text:

"The move is meant to "ensure students have every opportunity to pursue or complete their studies," officials said in a statement on Thursday.

"This includes new applicants and those who are currently in the U.S. who wish to transfer or continue their studies as a visiting student."

Applying for admission at the U of C **can cost up to \$145.**

The U.S. President's executive order last week prevents visitors from Iraq, Syria, Sudan, Iran, Somalia, Libya and Yemen from entering the United States for 90 days.”

Link: <http://www.cbc.ca/beta/news/canada/calgary/university-calgary-admissions-waived-travel-ban-1.3964584>

6. Queen’s University

Action Taken: Consideration of waiving the application fees for students who so apply (“doesn’t apply to other international students, including US citizens, who might also decide that Canada is a more hospitable environment” – Taken from email from Prof. Daniel Woolf, Principal and Vice-Chancellor at Queen’s University)

2. Temporary ‘Refuge’ in the Form of Space and Resources for Stranded Scholars

The Science Solidary List (Grace’s note: isn’t just a university initiative, involves profs and scholars from the sciences)

Action Taken: **The Science Solidarity List** consists of over 78 scientists in Canada opening up their labs, offering bench, desk, and lab space, and helping with accommodations, offering internet, library, and journal access for stranded scientists and students.

Relevant Text:

“This is a list of scientists offering temporary bench or desk space, library access and possibly even accommodation for US-based scientists who are stranded abroad due to the White House Executive Order 13769 "Protecting the Nation from Foreign Terrorist Entry into the United States" of 27 January, 2017.

Potential hosts: Please use the form on the right to enter your offer and add yourself to the list.

Stranded scientists wishing to apply to one of the potential hosts on this list: please contact the host laboratory directly. Only apply if you are in acute need of help due to the recent immigration ban, and are a research scientist from a US lab.

Please note that the researchers on this list have volunteered to be contacted by scientists in need at the time of their posting; not all of them might still have space, or be able to offer more than very temporary assistance.

There are currently 857 offers of assistance.

Link: <http://www.embo.org/science-solidarity>

University of Toronto, Political Sciences Department

Action Taken: Professor Rebecca Kingston secured from the Chair of Political Science (Lou Pauly) the possibility of access to space and equipment (stations in the undergraduate computer lounge on the 3rd floor of **Sidney Smith**) for scholars stranded in Toronto who need an institutional home and a place to work.

University of Ottawa

Action Taken: Committed in recent statement to “help affected students identify summer courses, find housing and access UOttawa’s support services”

Date: Feb. 1, 2017

Link: <https://www.uottawa.ca/gazette/en/news/university-ottawa-announces-measures-assist-students-and-academics-affected-us-travel>

Brock University:

Action Taken: Guarantees affected students residence space for the upcoming spring, summer and fall terms.

Date: Feb. 2, 2017

Link: <https://brocku.ca/brock-news/2017/02/brock-offers-help-to-foreign-students-stranded-by-u-s-ban/>

3. Conference/Workshop Relocation or Skype-In

University of Toronto

Action taken: Faculty of Law has offered to host and relocate workshop from Columbia Law School in New York in March to Toronto

Date: January 31, 2017

Relevant text:

“For another, we learned yesterday about a planned conference at Columbia Law School in New York in March that involves Yemeni colleagues who are now banned from travel to the U.S. Out of basic collegiality, and also to offer a concrete manifestation of our rejection of careless, heavy-handed, and intolerant approaches to national security, we have offered to host the workshop at the Faculty and are working with our colleagues at Columbia to see whether this is feasible.”

Link: <http://www.law.utoronto.ca/news/message-dean-ed-iacobucci-quebec-attack-and-us-travel-ban>

See also: Joseph Wong’s statement

“ Many of us have begun to consider other ways we can assist. Examples of some of the ways the U of T academic community are engaging include:

- Consideration of late applications for admissions;
- Speaking to US universities where graduate students may have job talks or conferences to **request Skype access**;
- Offering to temporarily host individuals stranded in Canada by the US ban;
- Offering to temporarily support impacted students and academic staff as visiting students and visiting professors at U of T;
- Supporting US-based colleagues by hosting events previously scheduled for the US here at U of T.**

If your division intends to provide assistance or would like to engage in new initiatives to support affected students and colleagues, please share your plans with Joseph Wong whose office can provide support and is compiling a list of our collective efforts:

Joseph Wong
Associate Vice-President & Vice-Provost, International Student Experience

avp.international@utoronto.ca”

Link: http://memos.provost.utoronto.ca/us-travel-restrictions-pdad-59/?utm_source=wysija&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20170203_WeeklyDigest

4. Enlarged Visiting Scholars and Scholars at Risk Programs

University of Ottawa

Action taken: Announced in a recent statement that it is considering ‘visiting appointments’ for those from affected countries working in the U.S., to immediately enroll students into similar courses, Also announced that it will and to try to integrate those students into existing uOttawa research teams with the support of professors and students

Date: Feb. 1, 2017

“We will make every effort to integrate those enrolled in U.S. universities and participating in graduate-level research programs into uOttawa research teams under the supervision of a professor who can provide support.

-Evaluate all possible measures to immediately enroll them into similar courses.

-Accelerate the processing of admissions into undergraduate and graduate programs by closely examining the possibility of crediting courses taken in the U.S.

-Work with Canadian immigration officials so that affected students are assigned a status allowing them to pursue studies in Canada without returning to their country of origin.”

Link: <https://www.uottawa.ca/gazette/en/news/university-ottawa-announces-measures-assist-students-and-academics-affected-us-travel>

Glendon College:

Action Taken: Established a visiting scholar status to accommodate visiting scholars who are stranded in Toronto (Professor Rebecca Kingston suggested that University of Toronto could do the same? Must figure out how that is negotiated, institutionalized, communicated, managed, etc.)

Relevant text:

Email from Willem Maas:

Colleagues,

York University's Glendon College (Toronto, Canada) has available temporary Visiting Scholar spaces (unpaid, but with access to shared office space, computing facilities, and libraries) for any academics who are affected by the US travel ban.

Toronto, the fourth most populous city in North America, has vibrant communities from around the world, including the countries specified in the US travel ban. As the bilingual liberal arts campus of York University, Glendon may be particularly attractive to affected scholars who are francophone or francophile. More information:
<http://www.glendon.yorku.ca/>

Please feel free to forward; and please contact me should you or someone you know be interested.

Willem Maas Department Chair, Associate Professor & Jean Monnet Chair / Directeur de département, Professeur agrégé & Chaire Jean Monnet

University of Toronto

Action Taken: Paul Cohen and several others in his unit (Department of History) are discussing the creation by the university and constituent faculties and departments of “emergency visiting scholar/student” positions, backed by money and legal expertise to support scholars or students who might have to leave the U.S. and who might have to navigate the Canadian immigration system.

5. Student-Led Initiatives

Action Taken: **Canada Research-A-Thon (Sponsored by LexisNexis)**

Date: Feb. 4, 2017

Relevant Text:

Law students from across Canada will come together on one day to research issues relating to the recent travel bans in the United States and their Canadian impact.

Students will gather on their local campuses to conduct legal research and draft memos in response to research questions suggested by the Canadian Council for Refugees (CCR). The research will be aimed at potential legal challenges to the Safe Third Country Agreement, or will support related mandates of the CCR.

Each group will work for 12 hours, with individuals contributing in shorter shifts, from approximately 8:00 am to 8:00 pm local time (times may vary by school).

Every Canadian law school has confirmed their interest.

Link: https://www.facebook.com/events/591092754415456/?active_tab=about

University of Ottawa

Action Taken: Mp Letter Writing Campaign on the #MuslimBan (Event)

Date: Feb. 1, 4-7; Feb 2., 4-7; Feb. 3; 10-4

Relevant Text: On behalf of law student organizations, we join with all peoples across Canada to condemn the horrific shootings at the Centre Culturel Islamique de Québec on January 29, 2017. Six men were murdered in an act of terrorism.

Six families have been left without fathers, brothers, and husbands. Entire communities have been shaken to their core. An entire nation, shocked as experiences and fears articulated over years of increasing political polarization, have resulted in the taking of six innocent lives. These are not isolated incidents, the culture of intolerance exists, however pleasantly or poorly veiled.

We may not be Trump's America, but we are Canada. A country that silently turned a blind-eye to the rise of an anti-Muslim agenda for over a decade. A country who uses terms like "Islamism" and proposes legislation like the Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act. A country who conserves cultural stereotypes in law and policy, and silences deaths in immigration detention.

Before pointing fingers to the south, we must first look inward.

What have we been doing to create and foster a safer and more inclusive space for Muslims, refugees, and minorities? What privileges are we recognizing and what intersections are we fostering? It is our collective responsibility to actively resist facism, hatred, and fear mongering. We stand in solidarity with all Muslim Canadians.

In the days, weeks, months, and perhaps even years that follow, the culmination of a cancerous underbelly will try to convince you that you are not safe - that you must forsake your liberties and common sense in exchange for pseudo-security.

The rhetoric of shock and chaos is intended to destabilize communities and yet, over the past few days we have seen it do the exact opposite. People from across races, religions, genders, and backgrounds are organizing in the most striking show of humanity. In light of this we will be organizing the following events over the next few days:

Write to your MP - // Friday Feb 3 10-4pm

6. Immigration and VISA Advising

Simon Fraser University

Action Taken: In a statement in response to the U.S. Travel Ban, Simon Fraser states that it is providing visa advising and personal counselling to affected students.

Link: https://www.sfu.ca/pres/petterspeeches/2016/president_s-statement-on-u-s--travel-ban.html

University of Windsor

Action taken: Helped an affected student retain an immigration lawyer to help the student apply for Canadian citizenship

Link: <http://globalnews.ca/news/3223669/ontario-law-student-afraid-of-attending-classes-in-u-s-due-to-donald-trump-travel-ban/>

Memorial University

Action Taken: Memorial offers certified immigration advisors to assist students, faculty, and staff who need help obtaining visas, study permits, and other immigration documents.

Link: <https://gazette.mun.ca/campus-and-community/statement-from-memorial/>

*Grace's note: As Joseph Wong mentioned in his statement, it's important not to jump the gun and provide immigration advice if one isn't qualified to do so. Helping affected students retain

immigration lawyers and redirecting them to proper resources (i.e) immigration officers, etc.) seems like a better alternative

7. Additional Financial Assistance (Establishment of scholarships, tuition deposit cuts, etc. for affected students)

1. Brock University

Action Taken: Cut **tuition deposits by 50% (*Grace's note: It seems like Brock is the first university and perhaps the only one to have done this so far), provided a \$1000 "transition award" (*Grace's note: ditto on this)** to help students get to Brock's main campus in Niagara

Date: Feb. 2, 2017

Link: <https://brocku.ca/brock-news/2017/02/brock-offers-help-to-foreign-students-stranded-by-u-s-ban/>

2. Memorial University

Action Taken: Exploring 1st-semester scholarship support for students from the countries affected (Details not yet released/established)

Link: <https://gazette.mun.ca/campus-and-community/statement-from-memorial/>

8. Misc.

University of British Columbia's Task Force:

Action Taken: UBC has launched a task force to help over 80 faculty staff and 350 students from affected countries.

Date: Jan. 30, 2017

Relevant text:

“The task force will have an initial budget of \$250,000 and will be headed by Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President International Pam Ratner, with representatives from both the Vancouver and the Okanagan campuses also involved.

...

According to Ono’s statement, the new UBC task force will strive to work with the relevant bodies within the federal and provincial government. The exact steps it will take are not yet clear, but the statement assures that the task force will continue to keep the university community informed of the their actions.”

Links: -<http://thevarsity.ca/2017/02/03/ubc-president-establishes-task-force-in-response-to-us-executive-order/>

- <http://www.vancouverobserver.com/news/trumps-travel-ban-having-profound-impact-research-canadian-academics-say>

University of Toronto, School of Graduate Studies’ Cataloguing of Affected Students

Action Taken: Currently cataloguing the number of affected students on campus by circulating a form that requests students who are International Visiting Graduate Students (IVGS) and who, because of the US Executive Order may be stranded in Canada, to complete a spreadsheet form.

Date: Feb. 6, 2017

Relevant Text: (Spreadsheet being circulated)

Name of Graduate Unit:

	Number of Students	Name of Student	Student Number
Iran			
Iraq			
Libya			
Somalia			
Sudan			
Syria			
Yemen			

University of Toronto, Department of Religion's Incorporation of Discussion re: EO in Courses

Action Taken: Professor Ruth Marshall from the University of Toronto's Department for the Study of Religion has dedicated one class (JPR364- Religion and Politics) to teaching on the Executive Order and its implications. At least 3 other faculty members have also integrated discussion about it into their current courses.

Action Taken: Establishment of Sanctuary City Blog

Action Taken: Professors Alexandra Flyn and Philip Chan from the Department of Human Geography & City Studies (UTSC) have established a blog that documents sanctuary cities and university campuses. The blog contains a comprehensive, updated spreadsheet listing all sanctuary campuses in the U.S. as well as links their petitions and info about who can sign.

Link: <https://sanctuarycities.ca>

E-Petition (Developed and Circulated by a group of graduate students, University of Toronto)

Tell UofT to help students and academics who are unsafe because of the US travel ban
https://www.change.org/p/meric-gertler-president-tell-uoft-to-help-students-and-academics-who-are-unsafe-because-of-the-us-travel-ban?recruiter=679968629&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=share_page&utm_term=des-lg-share_petition-custom_msg

Concerned UofT Students

(note - if you want to add an organisational endorsement, please email uoftletter@gmail.com)

Dear University of Toronto Administration,

We the undersigned appreciate the University of Toronto Administration's efforts to help international students and scholars in light of the recent US travel ban. We are pleased that the university has offered to extend graduate application deadlines and has waived the application fee for affected prospective students.

While the restrictions have been suspended by the recent court ruling, the uncertainty around the final outcome of the legal battle persists. It is apparent, however, that the current political climate in the United States has become increasingly hostile to the citizens of these countries. The ban has caused significant disruption to the lives of academics with Iranian, Iraqi, Libyan, Somali, Sudanese, Syrian, and Yemeni nationalities who study and work in the USA and will likely have long-term consequences for their scholarly activities. We believe that the University of Toronto can further support the affected students and academics by offering additional provisions for their visit, admission, or transfer to UofT. We propose that the university administration consider:

- That special funds be allocated to provide international tuition waivers to all departments such that they can accept additional international students from the affected nationalities;
- That the application review process for the affected students who have already been offered admission to study at American institutions be expedited;
- That outdated English language test results be accepted for those who are currently studying in the US if they otherwise qualify for admission to UofT;

- That “Visiting Student” status be offered through the IVGS program with a waiver of associated fees for those who are unable to return to the United States or would like to explore the possibility of transferring to UofT;
- That financial assistance be provided for such visiting students or researchers with their residence and living expenses;
- That a transition plan be devised for visiting students to have the opportunity to formally enroll at UofT following their temporary visits.

We suggest that the university work with the Department of Immigration, Refugees, and Citizenship Canada to help affected students with their visa requirements. We recommend that the university encourage the federal government to expedite the study/work permit applications of the affected nationalities and allow them to apply for status change from within Canada.

We believe that through a combination of UofT community actions and the support offered by the administration, it will be possible to attract a greater number of talented scholars from the affected nations which will benefit those individuals as well as the university. This will prove that we are engaged and committed to alleviating the impact of the discriminatory policy of the US government. We hope that UofT will demonstrate leadership by adopting such initiatives to support the international academic community.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned

Additional Asks and Ideas for the University and Administration:

Professor Shahrzad Mojab (OISE) has suggested:

1. Providing better funds for the visiting scholar program (which are currently unpaid, status-only positions), especially for students from affected countries who cannot cover cost of travel or expenses
2. Allocating 3-5k for each scholar, to be selected by the hosting unit (she suggested one per year)
3. Encouraging units, when possible, to allocate a stipendiary course to be taught by a visiting scholar in consultation with the hosting/supervising faculty member
4. To allocate additional GA to students affected by the ban or subjected to purge in Turkey.
5. To use internal SIG SSHRC or CKA at WGSJ to organize "teach-ins", or pedagogical spaces for all to speak the current situation globally
6. To create post-doc or post-graduate research/teaching positions for these scholars."

Relevant text:

"UT should provide better funds for the visiting scholar program. Recently a notice was circulated called University of Toronto in the World which outlined the UT's commitment to internationalization. This is the moment to ask the administration to put some resources in supporting the growing demand for visiting scholars position. The unpaid, status only positions are relatively easily to arrange but the cost of travel and expenses in Toronto is prohibitive for majority of scholars coming from the banned countries including Turkey, Pakistan, Palestine, etc. Concretely, we should demand an allocation of between 3-5K for each scholar to be selected by the hosting unit (maybe one a year) also encouraging units when possible to allocate a stipendiary course to be taught by a visiting scholar in consultation with the hosting/supervising faculty member."

She also suggested distributing a postcard on fascism that she used in 2003, and to organize discussion around its content.

Link: <https://www.syracuseculturalworkers.com/products/postcard-early-warning-signs-of-fascism?isrc=related&icgn=RelatedProducts>

-Pamela Klaasen, Vice Dean of Undergraduate Students for Faculty of Arts and Science: Setting up a working group to discuss what the university can do moving forward

Simon Gooden-Townsend (Joint JD/MPP Candidate 2017)

- I mentioned at the Townhall the idea of having a common core curriculum of some sort that would provide a foundation for thinking about core citizenship issues. This could be an area to discuss Islamophobia, in the context of what makes a tolerant society. If this is desirable, it is certainly a long term project.

- Establish / enhance courses / a department in rural studies. I think that in the US there has increasingly been seen to be a split between urban and rural views. Although not a perfect match, Trump seems to have gotten more support from rural areas, so there is value in knowing more about those communities. I think the same pattern is visible in Canada, although to a lesser degree. One of my colleagues mentioned she would be interested in some of those sorts of classes, but couldn't find anything.

- I believe that UofT has an emergency response plan. Ensure that the plan is able to deal with 'social emergencies' such as an outbreak of Islamophobia or hate speech. Perhaps make it broad enough so that it would be applicable in something like the current situation that occurred with the US executive orders. I recognize that one potential concern with this is that having the ability to declare anti-Islamic incidents an emergency risks normalizing every event that occurs that is not declared an emergency.

- Build on UofT's strengths, which I see largely as creating knowledge (research) and disseminating knowledge (teaching). I think this one I can best illustrate with an example. I was one of the UofT organisers for the research-a-thon. That event could only be successful because it took advantage of the strong research skills students have. Even so, the event required figuring out how to effectively use over 800 researchers at 22 universities across Canada contributing an average ~3-4 hours of research each. Conducting such decentralized legal research required innovation and creativity. We were only able to meet this challenge because it was playing to an existing strength, but in so doing, it enhanced this skill.

Suggestions from the Town Hall Meeting, Friday February 10, 2017.

Regarding University Commitments:

Need for Transparency and Clearly Articulated Central Policy re: University commitments esp those involving financial commitments. This should not be done on an individual basis and thus requires some clear answers viz:

- how many 'extra visa fellowships" are available,
- what is the process for putting names forward, striking a committee to determine allocation of awards etc.
- how many additional funding packages for graduate students
- how many additional postdoctoral positions
- of course, there are differences between, for e.g., one-year "scholars at risk" program and postdoc positions that need to come with funding

Bringing Specific Files to the University asap

- need to bring specific files forward asap.
- Discussion generated by the example provided by a colleague of a graduate student based in the US from one of the banned countries, wishing to transfer to UofT, contacting SGS, with as yet no reply
- People appreciated Provost's concern but suggestion to send to Dean not enough
- Given the many statements of support, the only way to move things to a more concrete level now is to present departments, SGS, FAS, and the Provost's and President's offices with actual cases where they/we can put our money where our mouths are (**See notes above on suggestion re process**)

Provide Visa Advising and Legal Support to Scholars from Affected countries –

- At least two colleagues, graduate students and tenure-stream faculty from affected countries noted that the complicated and time-consuming process of visa applications for attending US conferences has been going on for some time – so they are pleased it is finally being addressed – but there is strong need for more visa counselling and legal support – offer certified immigration lawyers

Lobbying University and Government, and Lobbying University to Pressure federal and provincial governments

- On all funding-involved matters – request special funds for scholars at risk, PhD student transfer requests etc.
- Uof T community can and should mobilize to pressure Administration to lobby government to rescind Safe Third Country Agreement
- Is this something UTFA might do through collective agreement negotiations in the context of working through non-discriminatory measures – put on the table that the university include measures to support victims of this type of discrimination

Importance of Sharing Personal Stories and Keep Careful Tracking of Experiences –AND the need for this to be addressed as part of the need for systemic change and not just a one-time event

- Two people shared their stories of frustrating border experiences, time taken for visa applications etc
- Support for careful tracking of people and experiences
- Time-consuming and frustrations and set back all affect tenure files. We should raise the issue with the university – that this be taken into consideration at tenure time. AT present, it is unacknowledged. **IN this regard, a tenure-stream colleague spoke of profiling that has been a constant part of their professional life before the ban, and asked that there now be more systematic attention to this. They have shared some written comments which we are including here:** *Since I have started my current position I have applied for six visas from multiple countries to attend to International conferences to present my work and research, as it is necessary both for my tenure file and getting myself known in the profession. I have put a great deal of financial resources of my research quota per year, and time (around 9 months of my teaching and research position at the Faculty during the course of three years) for visa applications...I [also] had to travel to Ottawa twice for my visa application. Each visa application takes about two months to be processed. Therefore, I cannot purchase any flight tickets until I have the visa. By the time I can purchase the flight tickets, the expenses would be extraordinary, which again is reduced from my research quota. Moreover, most international universities cannot consider me as a guest lecturer, as they do not have the time and resources for my visa applications. To conclude, I have less time and resources to conduct and present my research compared to my other colleagues. My concern is that none of these efforts will be acknowledged in my tenure file, and only the outcomes are considered to be worthy of consideration. Also, since my situation is a not-spoken and not-considered situation, I cannot even apply for more resources or time in my grant applications because of it. So, I am openly asking for more equity in the life of othered faculty members.*
- Needs to be part of systemic change and not a one-time event. Greater support from U in facing obstacles. More consideration of impediments when professional assessments are involved.

More Town Halls and Teach-ins – at all levels (from class to university-wide)

- lots of appreciation for town hall and need to do more of them—university-wide, multidisciplinary, faculty and students

- some said that as members of “more conservative” units that had chosen not to act on the Ban, the “leadership” shown by other units was very important – helped create a space in which they too might be involved and could speak out without feeling isolated

Teach-in Subjects – at discipline and interdisciplinary and university wide levels, and even UofT teach-ins that might be live-streamed – need to move beyond critique of Executive Order to broader themes (suggestions below)

A no. of people stressed that UofT might use its position as a leading research university to recruit people to address critical issues involved, drawing on wider expertise

- Suggestions for teach-in subjects ranged from clarification of specific issues at hand and broader issues – they included”
- Third Safe Country Agreement; Surveillance, Social Media, the Cloud and Privacy Issues (ie., Lisa Austin’s points re US surveillance system and its continuing encroachment on privacy and the particular vulnerability of scholars/grad students/postdocs doing research, and requests for access to cell phones, lab tops, even passwords – moreover, surveillance and info gathering begins well before we reach a border (UofT student emails etc) – Need to Address Canada’s Sharing of Info with USA, long reach of Am Privacy Act and indiscriminate info sharing
- Also, more broadly, Canada’s complicity in the growing militarization of the globe (Saudi Arabia deal)
- the phenomenon of neo-fascism and how constitutional democracies might have engendered the current disturbing situation
- Broaden scope to different groups of migrants who will be affected – e.g. undocumented migrants, many of whom are Mexicans
- Training of TAs and others on these issues.
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Suggestions that Don’t Cost Money – Reframe UofT’s “Boundless” Campaign

- Showcase the research and other contributions of scholars – faculty, grad students, postdocs from affected countries – and thus also build cross-university community
- Reframe Boundless campaign (one suggestion was a ‘Boundaryless’ Campaign) – use exhibits (eg. Robarts Library) and Lectures

International Students Statements and Suggestions (distributed separately)

- Current court hold-up likely won’t change situation of uncertainty for International Students, esp given single entry US visas, some never get visas back, so need support

AND Dept. of History Suggestion:

Faculty who have discussed contributing some of their Pera (professional funds) to help fund bursaries etc and also use as leverage in asking the University to do more