RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE OHIO FACULTY COUNCIL RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR BENEFICIARIES OF THE DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) PROGRAM

Whereas, the Ohio Faculty Council (OFC) represents the faculty at all of the four-year public universities in the State of Ohio and espouses strong and consistent faculty influence on issues and policies related to higher education; and

Whereas, more than 700,000 individuals nationwide have benefited from the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, and students who are eligible for the DACA program must not have been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more other misdemeanors, or otherwise be deemed a threat to national security or public safety; and

Whereas, DACA students on our campuses have proven to be an important asset to our society by enriching our learning environments and by being exemplary student scholars and student leaders as they actively serve their local communities and economies; and

Whereas, more than 20,000 Ohio students who have been raised and educated in the United States are facing great difficulty because of the indeterminate status of the DACA program; and

Whereas, the BRIDGE (Bar Removal of Individuals Who Dream of Growing our Economy) Act that was introduced by Sens. Dick Durban (D-IL) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) on December 9, 2016 seeks to provide “provisional protected presence” to certain non-U.S. citizens, which would include authorization to work in the U.S. and protection from deportation, the two main benefits that DACA currently provides; and

Whereas, the University of Cincinnati Faculty Senate is a member of Ohio Faculty Council and shares their concerns for DACA students at our university;

Therefore, be it resolved that the University of Cincinnati Faculty Senate affirms the resolution of the Ohio Faculty Senate that strongly supports passage of the BRIDGE Act.