Resolution Regarding the Importance of Immigration to American Higher Education

"Whereas the United States as a country has historically been both a beacon and a refuge for immigrants who have sought both to leave behind conflict situations and, more generally, to pursue the many opportunities provided by this great country; and,

Whereas during the course of the twentieth century many of the country's leading scientists and researchers, individuals who have brought great distinction to American universities, were themselves individuals who had fled the oppression and violence of their homelands; and,

Whereas these refugees, and other immigrants who came to the United States from less fraught situations, made major contributions to American higher education and to the nation's cultural and intellectual life, as well as to America's economic and military security; and therefore,

Be it resolved that the Florida International University Faculty Senate urges the Congress and President of the United States to recognize that in either limiting or denying access to individuals seeking to immigrate to the United States, and especially those fleeing violence and oppression, we are very likely undermining the future economic, scientific, technological and military strength of the country."