

Remarks by Chancellor Kent Syverud

Delivered on Thursday, January 23, 2020

Location: Chancellor’s House

Remarks: Travel-Ban Student Reception

*The Chancellor was introduced by Professor Can Isik, College of Engineering and Computer Science*

Welcome to the Chancellor’s House. Happy New Year.

This has been the Chancellor's house since 1915, for the last nine Chancellors. Syracuse University has had a Chancellor in place since 1873. That’s also the same year our first international student graduated, less than a year after our founding. So international students were a vital part of our institution before we ever had a Chancellor.

Syracuse University and Syracuse University students have been humble enough and smart enough to know that we have something to learn from people everywhere throughout our 150-year history. You are not just guests of this institution. You are members of an Orange Community that value your presence.

This week, the President announced that seven additional countries would be added to the travel ban. Reportedly these countries are: Belarus, Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sudan and Tanzania. That’s why some of you were invited to join us at this event just yesterday. We have students from all of these countries except Sudan. This is an important moment for Syracuse University. Supporting our students, regardless of their place of national origin, remains our priority. This represents an opportunity to once again reinforce our commitment to the values Syracuse University was founded upon.

I will be making a public statement to the campus community later this week expressing our support for all of you who are affected by the original or expanded travel ban.

We appreciate the hardship that this causes and the Center for International Services and the rest of the University stand behind you as you seek to complete your education and plan your career. You have our full support, and we are so proud you have chosen to be part of the Syracuse University Family.

Thank you all for being here this evening, and I look forward to a great semester.

Before we sit down to eat, please welcome College of Engineering and Computer Science Professor Can Isik. Thank you.

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