Dear TTUHSC Family,

In recent months, we have all felt the strain that the COVID-19 pandemic has put on life as we knew it. Classes were moved online, vacations and eating out are things of the past, and our interactions are mostly limited to emails and Zoom calls. It seems as if this is our new normal, but it is important to remember that this is all temporary. As long as we all do our part (wear masks, social distance, wash our hands, and stay home whenever possible), we will eventually return to how things were pre-COVID.

Unfortunately, we are now faced with another challenge. As many of you may know, due to a recent policy change by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), international students have been put at risk for losing their F-1 and M-1 student visas and will not be allowed to remain in the United States if their programs are fully online. With the status of course content delivery uncertain for both the time being and the future, it is reprehensible that these students – who are members of our academic community and TTUHSC family – be subjected to removal for something beyond their control. Additionally, measures involving moving course delivery online are done in the best interest of student and public health, and this policy change puts that in jeopardy.

It is the mission of the TTUHSC Student Government Association to advocate for the wellbeing and best interest of all of our students. We want to offer our support to and stand in solidarity with our international student community. These students are an integral part of what makes our institution so great. We will continue to work on behalf of our student body to find solutions to these issues and will support TTUHSC administration in their efforts to address this situation.

As always, please reach out to your Senators or Executive Officer team with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely,
TTUHSC Student Government Association Executive Officer Team

Marcus Gonzalez, President
Rachel Kortman, VP of Communications
Daniel Payberah, VP of Operations
Tim Brown, VP of Finance