

Resolution F20-02: The GSA Opposes DHS Proposal to Shorten Admission Period for F- & J- Student Visa Holders and their Dependents

Sponsors: Stephen Breazeale (GSA Representative - Nursing)
Christina Carolus (GSA Representative - Anthropology)
Ronald Chow (GSA Representative - Public Health)
Breeanna Elliott (GSA Representative - History; Chair, Facilities & Healthcare Committee)
Ferhat Erata (GSA Representative - Computer Science)
Aida Feng (GSA Representative - Germanic Languages and Literatures)
Chrisan Fernando (GSA Representative - Biological and Biomedical Sciences (BBS))
Aritra Ghosh (GSA Representative - Astronomy; Member, Steering Committee)
Sophie Hao (GSA Representative - Computer Science)
Karina López (GSA Representative - Spanish and Portuguese)
Federica Parodi (GSA Representative - Italian Studies)
Carl R. Rice (GSA Representative - History; Chair, PR Committee)
Pavla Rosenstein (GSA Representative - Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations)
Joseph Shomar (GSA Representative - Physics)
Spencer Small (GSA Representative - Slavic Languages & Literatures; Member, Steering Committee)

Recipients: Peter Salovey (*President*, Yale University)
Scott Strobel (*Provost*, Yale University)
Kimberly Goff-Crews (*Secretary & Vice President for University Life*, Yale University)
The Yale Corporation Board of Trustees
Lynn Cooley (*Dean*, Yale University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences)
Ann Kuhlman (*Executive Director*, Office of International Students & Scholars)
Richard Jacob (Associate Vice President for Federal and State Relations)

Whereas the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced on September 25, 2020 a [proposed rule change](#) that will alter the current Duration of Status policy for F & J status visa-holders and would limit the duration of their stay in the US to either two or four years before requiring an application with US Citizenship and Immigration Services for an extension of stay;

Whereas international students comprise approximately half of the doctoral students in the US and more than one-third of the students in Yale's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences;

Whereas this proposed DHS rule change saddles international students with unnecessary emotional and financial distress;

Whereas this undue distress will adversely affect international students' progress in their academic programs;

Whereas Yale University maintains a commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, promotes Belonging at Yale, and emphasizes its support for international students and scholars;

Be it first resolved that the Graduate Student Assembly (GSA) affirms that international students belong at Yale and are valued and essential members of the Graduate School and Yale communities.

Be it further resolved that the GSA condemns this proposed xenophobic and inhuman threat to academic freedom and commits to opposing the implementation of this rule (or any similarly xenophobic and isolationist rule changes);

Be it further resolved that GSA calls on the resolution's recipients and other University leaders to join the Assembly in all of these actions by reaffirming their support of international students, by directing the Office of General Counsel to prepare a legal challenge to the proposed rule change, and by publicly opposing this rule change and any future proposals of this nature.

Be it further resolved that the GSA requests the University administration work alongside GSA and other student organizations as it designs a robust response to the proposed rule change