Future of Research Response to Attack on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

As an organization that supports all early career researchers, Future of Research is strongly opposed to the Trump administration’s attacks on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. DACA provides temporary reprieve from deportation for nearly 800,000 undocumented immigrants who arrived in the US illegally as minors. DACA recipients must meet certain criteria, such as having never been convicted of a felony or certain misdemeanors, being currently enrolled as a student and/or having received a high school diploma or GED, or prior military service with an honorable discharge.

Many members of the early career researcher community in the U.S. are foreign-born and many DACA recipients are young professionals in research fields or enrolled in graduate programs in preparation for research careers. DACA recipients have pursued higher education despite many hurdles they have faced due to their immigration status, socioeconomic class, and race.

Future of Research exhibits a strong commitment to diversity for all early career researchers. We commit to doing whatever we can to speak out with those affected by the assault on DACA, and supporting the work of other organizations, including but not limited to SACNAS, United We Dream, and the American Civil Liberties Union. The Immigrant Legal Resource Center has community resources available in English and Spanish.

We urge the scientific community to stand up and support those affected by the attacks on DACA while in the U.S., and to make concrete contributions to the development of a diverse scientific enterprise.