Jm T <juliemtang@gmail.com>

to Provost, Ling-chi, bcc: BayAreaChinaGroup, bcc: Joseph

To Provost and Vice President Jennifer Evans-Cowley:

I wish to declare my utter shock and disbelief at the conduct and behavior of your esteemed school in the summary removal of all the Chinese scholars enrolled in your College through the China Scholarship Council of China. Started as a Black-American College, your school has a long tradition of racial and ethnic pride. It also symbolizes the values of justice and equality for all people. The treatment of the Chinese scholars in expelling them as a group is without precedent. It is racially and national-origin motivated, something that is explicitly prohibited by the US Constitution. Foreign students, as a class, are protected by the US Constitution. Their summary removal from the College appears to be a serious violation of their constitutional rights to equal protection and due process of the law under the 14th Amendment.

On a personal level, the pain and agony you have caused these highly accomplished scholars are immense. You may know that in many of their cases, their families saved and scraped up all their money to send them to your school to learn a skill and obtain life experiences about America's humanity and democratic values. This is certainly not the kind of democratic value we are teaching them. No one should be treated as a cast-off - something you just toss away at whim, without human dignity. For these individuals, their lives are ruined. What you have done to these scholars is unbecoming of any academic institution. And if in fact, the reasons for what you are doing is political, then shame on you for succumbing to these outside pressures without regard for the integrity of your school and the livelihood of these students.

We recognize there is a cold war going on between the US and China. But these Chinese scholars are here for genuine learning. The fact that the US and China are not on friendly terms should not affect the people to people exchanges, which will in fact support and promote a better relationship between the two countries, something I believe every American would want. These scholars met all the qualifications for admission to your College. Other than the politics at play, there is absolutely no reason to treat them in such a humiliating manner.

I urge you to rescind the illegal termination of their studies and welcome them into the school. This is a wrong that should be addressed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,
Judge Julie Tang, Retired
San Francisco, California

August 26, 2020

I am writing to inform you that the University of North Texas has come to a decision to end its relationship with visiting scholars who receive funding from the Chinese Scholarship Council (also known as the Chinese Scholarship Fund). As a result of this change, access to UNT email, servers, and other materials has been terminated. Please use your personal email for all future communications.

We encourage scholars who are impacted by this decision to work closely with your university host(s) to make the quick transition home as smooth as possible.

You will be able to return to campus to collect personal items. You should contact your host, who will make arrangements for you to be accompanied during your campus visit.

UNT is notifying the U.S. Exchange Visitor Program that your J-1 program end date is August 26, 2020. If you have questions regarding your J-1 status, please contact Laure_ _acobsen, Director of International Student and Scholar Services, 940-565-2195 or laure_____@unt.edu.

If you need assistance with COVID-19 testing prior to departure from the United States, please reach out to the Student Health and Wellness Center at 940-565-2333. Be sure to mention that you are a visiting scholar with special permission to receive COVID testing.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Cowley
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Mark McLellan, PhD
Vice President for Research & Innovation