Dear Middlebury College Community,

(*sent with permission)

As members of our community prepare to travel to Middlebury in the coming weeks, this email provides two updates regarding (1) International travel restrictions per President Trump’s Executive Order and (2) U.S. Customs & Border Protection’s (CBP) transportation checks. The goal of our communication is to keep our community informed, supported and prepared.

1. **International travel restrictions:** Earlier this year, President Trump issued an Executive Order (E.O.) restricting the travel of some international travelers to the U.S. On June 26, 2017, the U.S. Supreme Court declared that it will hear oral arguments regarding the legal challenges to President Trump’s travel restrictions in October 2017. In doing so, the Court has allowed portions of the E.O. to take effect as of June 29, 2017. The Court stated that the E.O. still applies to “foreign nationals who lack any bona fide relationship with a person or entity in the United States.” However, the partial lifting of the restrictions is a temporary measure until the Court decides the case. For more information, please see the [International Travel Restrictions](#) page on our website. Until a decision is reached:

   - Middlebury’s international students and scholars who already have visas or who are already in the U.S. are not subject to the travel restrictions. While the case is pending, Middlebury advises its students, scholars and employees from one of the six named countries (Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria & Yemen) who are currently in the U.S. to avoid non-essential travel outside of the U.S.

   - Students and employees in the process of applying for a visa should not be affected by the travel restrictions because they have a specific (i.e. a “bona fide”) relationship to Middlebury (see guidance from [NAFSA: Association of International Educators](#)).

2. **CBP transportation checks:** Most of Vermont is located within 100 miles of the Canadian border and falls within U.S. Customs and Border Protection’s (CBP) 100-mile border zone, where federal regulations give CBP the authority to operate and question individuals about their status in the United States. Within this area, individuals may encounter CBP officials at traffic checkpoints or transportation hubs who may ask to see documentation of their lawful status. See [Border Patrol operations](#) for more information.

   - We have learned that CBP recently received a directive to reinstitute the practice of transportation checks at public bus terminals. (In Vermont, this includes the bus transit stations in Burlington and White River Junction.) When a transportation check occurs, a CBP agent will board the bus and ask passengers to self-identify. Individuals may be asked to present documents to demonstrate their lawful status in the U.S.

   - With this in mind, we advise non-U.S. citizens who travel within the U.S. 100-mile border zone to carry appropriate identification that confirms their lawful status in the U.S. Concerned individuals may also choose to carry contact information for the College’s [Department of Public Safety](#) and for an immigration attorney. (If needed, Public Safety would reach out to International Student & Scholar Services staff outside of regular business hours.)

   - We encourage anyone with questions or concerns to contact International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS). ISSS will continue to communicate with officials from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and our local congressional offices and we
will update our website accordingly.

If you have any questions about the information in this email or other related concerns, please contact International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) at isss@middlebury.edu or by phone at 802-443-5858.

Best wishes for safe travels and a successful start of the academic year—

~Kathy

Kathy M. Foley
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Middlebury College & The Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey