

Statement of Principles Regarding Women in the Current Political Climate and Effects of Executive Orders

We are deeply concerned with the trajectory of recent White House executive orders and actions, and their detrimental effect on progress made to bolster women's rights throughout the United States. We believe that any action or legislation to rescind or diminish existing laws and policies that promote equality, safety and rights is contrary to the values of equity, inclusion and diversity upheld by the University of California.

The current U.S. Presidential administration has begun to undo regulations and other guidance that have afforded protections to people throughout the UC system. An executive order has removed protections for transgender individuals, and statements about sexual harassment in the workplace and rights for individuals with disabilities were removed from official federal websites. The Department of Education has withdrawn the Title IX "Dear Colleague" letter that provided guidance to education institutions related to sexual harassment and sexual violence. These actions could have significant negative repercussions on UC constituents, disproportionately harming women and other vulnerable groups.

The Systemwide Advisory Committee on the Status of Women (SACSW) supports the advancement and equity of women at the University of California. SACSW is committed to playing a critical role in supporting women of all backgrounds and abilities. We aspire to be a proactive partner with UC leadership to work on recommendations and approaches that ensure the promotion and well-being of women throughout our UC community.