

To: president@utexas.edu, Amanda.Cochran@austin.utexas.edu, vpla@austin.utexas.edu

President Hartzell and Vice President for Legal Affairs, Amanda Cochran-McCall,

I am writing to urge you to respond to the demands released by the UT Austin students, alumni, and community members to:

1. Immediately reinstate the Monarch program
2. Provide a clear statement as to the rationale for closing the Monarch program including a) why the Monarch program was not given time to address concerns and b) how the Monarch program is implicated by SB 17

The Monarch program did not implement any race or gender-based programming and provided vital services to students on campus. UT Austin IRB-approved research conducted by the Rooted Collective demonstrates a clear gap in services for students who are undocumented, hold temporary status, and are from mixed-status families. Students and alumni surveyed also reported that the campus environment was unwelcoming to them. This decision will only exacerbate these concerns.

Immigrant students deserve to be supported, feel safe and respected on their own campus, and your decision to close the Monarch program is disheartening and unjust. I urge you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,
