

# CAPAL/ACBAP Statement on US Travel Ban

by [Colleen Burgess](#) • [CAPAL News](#)

*\*\*\*Version française à paraître\*\*\**

The events of the previous weekend — in Washington DC and in Québec City — have been challenging for many Canadians to watch unfold. The Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians / l'Association canadienne des bibliothécaires académiques professionnels (CAPAL/ACBAP) stands beside those who are targeted and those who feel unsafe and silenced by virtue of their ethnicity, religion or heritage. CAPAL/ACBAP is committed to the values enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and asserts that the freedom of speech, freedom of thought, freedom of religion, and freedom of movement are fundamental values that must be upheld in a free and democratic society.

As professionals in higher education, we seek to eradicate discrimination, foster diversity and equity, and embrace and respect different cultures, views and beliefs. As librarians, we are committed to keeping our libraries safe and welcoming spaces for all. As professional academic librarians, we are available to help in the identification of reliable sources of information and the critical evaluation of the same.

The members of CAPAL/ACBAP offer our heartfelt support to those victimized by recent events which call into question the basic rights and respect for diversity, equity, and human dignity on a national and global scale. As evidence of our support, we are committed to challenging Islamophobia and the notions of fake news and alternate facts with the students and faculties we support.

Signed,

## **CAPAL Board of Directors (2016-2017)**

Colleen Burgess (Huron University College)  
Douglas Fox (Victoria University in the University of Toronto)  
Leona Jacobs (University of Lethbridge)  
Mary Kandiuk (York University)  
Eva Revitt (MacEwan University)  
Lisa Richmond (Wheaton College)  
Harriet Sonne-de-Torrens (University of Toronto Mississauga)  
Ali Versluis (University of Guelph)  
Anna Wilson (University of Alberta)