



April 25, 2012

An open letter to the Leadership of the Baha'i Institute of Higher Education.

Dear Colleagues:


In their open letter to the International Academic Community, Nobel Peace Prize recipients Archbishop Desmond M. Tutu and President Jose Ramos-Horta called on academic leaders to register their disapproval of any policy that bars individuals from higher education based on their religious background or political persuasion. The University of San Francisco is deeply concerned about the denial of educational opportunity to Baha'i students and faculty in Iran and wishes to convey its solidarity with them in their struggle for religious and academic freedom.


The University invites qualified students at the Baha'i Institute of Higher Education (BIHE) to seek admission to the University of San Francisco. As one of the most diverse universities in the country, USF understands the value of educating students from all over the world and from a diversity of backgrounds.

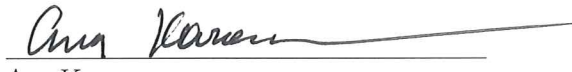
Baha'i students deserve the right to an education as we all do, regardless of our heritage, religion, or country of origin. This belief is consistent with the University's Jesuit Catholic tradition. Throughout history, Jesuit schools have welcomed students of all religious traditions and those with no denominational affiliation as full partners in educational enterprise and held the promotion of justice as their encompassing principle.

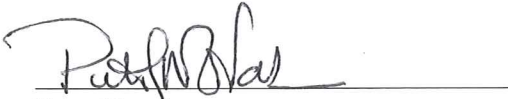
Sincerely,



Jennifer E. Turpin
Provost

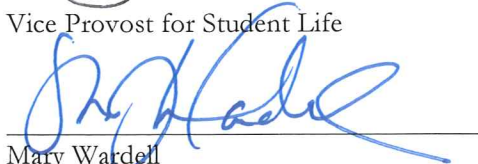

Gerardo Marin
Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs



BJ Johnson
Vice Provost for
Academic and Enrollment Services

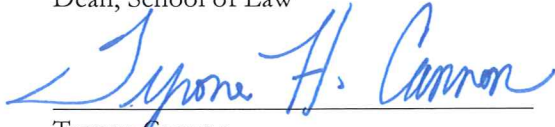

Ana Karaman
Vice Provost for Budget and Planning



Peter Novak
Vice Provost for Student Life

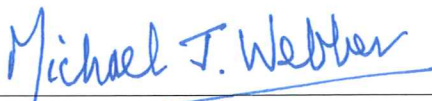

Laleh Shahideh
Associate Vice Provost Student Academic Services

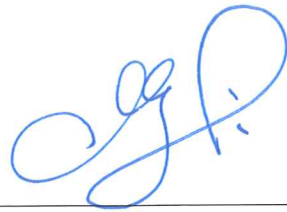

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Associate Vice Provost Diversity and Community Engagement


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