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MCDB Statement Regarding Incident of Bias and Xenophobia in Isla Vista

We are forwarding a disheartening message from our Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) regarding ongoing incidents of bias and xenophobia in Isla Vista. It's important that all of us are aware of this, recognize it as unacceptable, and do what we can to stop it (and support our colleagues who have been affected).

The message (see below) reports of how students of Asian and Asian-American descent are being harassed with racist and derogatory comments, and other xenophobic behavior. We are aware that BIPOC students have also been (and are being) subjected to similar harassment. Experiencing, witnessing, or simply being aware of such incidents, understandably can have a detrimental impact on a person's sense of welcome and belonging.

We encourage all of us to support one another and if you experience, witness, or hear of any incidents of bias, there are several things that you can do, as detailed below in the message.

Any member of our community who believes they experience or witnessed a hate incident or crime is encouraged to report the incident through the UC System wide reporting form.

Bias incident response https://ucsb-advocate.symplicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid091799?rep_type=1008

Student advisors and campus wellbeing services https://wellbeing.ucsb.edu/

OISS student advising <u>https://oiss.ucsb.edu/students/student-advising</u>

To gain a deeper understanding of how young people are being affected by such xenophobia, bias, and stigma around the world, but also helping to stop it, see:

https://www.voicesofyouth.org/covid-19-your-voices-against-stigma-and-discrimination

Sincerely, MCDB DEI Committee