

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO

DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR, CELLULAR AND DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY
PHONE (805) 893-5281



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA
93106-9625

MCDB Statement in support of the Asian members of our community

MCDB continues to work toward a more diverse faculty and student body, with the goal of offering a thriving, inclusive, and equitable learning and research environment for all. We are especially mindful these days of the challenges faced by so many of our students, staff, and faculty as we learn of yet more mass shootings and the anti-Asian racism and xenophobia directed toward persons in the APIDA community. We strongly condemn these acts of violence and terror inflicted upon US citizens, residents, and fellow members of our community. We ask that all members of the MCDB community strive toward supporting their fellow students and colleagues, and strive toward anti-racism. To all of our Asian American/Pacific Islander students and our Asian international students, please know that you are welcome and supported here in MCDB and at UCSB. The MCDB department stands in solidarity with the Asian and Pacific Islander Graduate Student Alliance (APIGSA: <https://apigsa-ucsb.wixsite.com/apigsa/about>). In addition, we also encourage accessing the resources listed by APIGSA as well as these sources:

<https://www.colorado.edu/asmagazine/2020/04/08/anti-asian-racism-and-covid-19>

<https://asiamatterspod.com/episode-16>

<https://stopaapihate.org/2020-2021-national-report/>

(source: <https://www.asianstudies.org/aas-statement-on-anti-asian-racism-and-violence/>)

We want all members of our UCSB community to feel safe. Violence is not tolerated at UCSB. Should you experience or witness any acts of hate, bias, violence, or harassment, please report these incidents to:

UC Ethics Point:

https://ucsystems.ethicspointvp.com/custom/ucs_ccc/default.asp

UCSB Equal Opportunity & Discrimination Prevention Office:

ricardo.alcaíno@ucsb.edu

MCDB DEI Committee

UCSB APIGSA Statement on the Murders of Daoyou Feng, Hyeon-Jeong Park, Julie Park, Xiaojie Tan, Delaina Ashley Yaun, Paul Andre Michaels, and the two as-yet unnamed victims in Atlanta on March 17, 2021

Dear APIGSA members,

In the horror and trauma of last night's anti-Asian attack in Atlanta, we share your grief. We condemn the blatant racism, misogyny, and anti-sex worker violence. We mourn the loss of Daoyou Feng, Hyeon-Jeong Park, Julie Park, Xiaojie Tan, Delaina Ashley Yaun, Paul Andre Michaels, and the two as-yet unnamed victims, and hold their families and communities in our hearts today.

We also acknowledge that a restorative justice-modeled response rejects calls to expand the carceral state. We witness in anger the police response to this murderer's* actions, which was to refer to him as having "a really bad day." We remember that the carceral state is a product of white supremacy and anti-Blackness, and that it does not and cannot protect our communities. We call for models of justice that look beyond current violent systems towards a more just and liberatory future.

If you, or allies in your orbit, are in a position to do so, please consider donating to the following resources:

- this specifically [Atlanta-based group](#) for Asian organizing;
- an [ongoing Google doc](#) of Asian organizations grouped by state and community;
- this [list of 61 ways to donate to Asian communities](#) organized by goal (community restoration, legal defense, etc.);
- this [Twitter thread](#) for resources focused on immigrants, lower-income Asians, and sex workers;
- [an Instagram thread](#) with organizations and calls to action for non-Asian allies.

Lastly, here is [a thread](#) on the entwined histories of anti-Asian and anti-Black racism and the need for solidarity.

Our work does not end here. As stated in our mission statement, APIGSA strives to create and maintain spaces of support for graduate students of Asian panethnicity, advocating for a more critically accurate representation of Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander students. Our work includes connecting our struggles and directing our anger in service of broader resistance movements.

We will be reaching out over the next few days with more offerings to help support each other. In the meantime, we appreciate any input on ways that APIGSA can continue to provide a stronger, more holistic representation of the issues concerning AAPI lives. We are here as community members, as resources, and as advocates.

In solidarity,

APIGSA board

<https://apigsa-ucsb.wixsite.com/apigsa/about>