

Statement Against Anti-Asian Hate

University of Alaska Anchorage Faculty Senate Diversity Committee

The Faculty Senate Diversity Committee at the University of Alaska Anchorage stands united in its commitment to fostering an inclusive and respectful campus environment where diversity, equity, and inclusion are celebrated and upheld as core values. UAA is a highly diverse campus and reflects the rich demographic of our local southcentral community. In light of a rising wave of anti-Asian hate and discrimination, we feel compelled to speak out against the acts of prejudice and violence that have been affecting Asian students, colleagues, and community members.

Asians make up one of the largest immigrant groups in Alaska. They also make up a significant proportion of the student, faculty, and staff population at UAA, and have made invaluable contributions to our university and the broader Alaska community. They are an integral part of our academic and cultural tapestry, and their diverse perspectives enrich the education and experiences of us all.

Discrimination based on race or ethnicity has no place in our academic community or society at large. We must actively reject stereotypes, biases, and hate in all their forms. Learning from the cultural richness of America's diverse, multi-lingual communities is key to building a vibrant and interconnected society.

As members of the Faculty Senate Diversity Committee, we commit to:

1. **Supporting Affected Individuals:** We stand in solidarity with those who have been affected by anti-Asian hate, including micro-aggressions, offering our support and empathy.
2. **Educating and Raising Awareness:** We will work to increase awareness about the history, culture, and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and promote understanding and empathy among our campus community.
3. **Promoting Inclusivity:** We will continue to advocate for policies and practices that promote inclusivity, diversity, and equity at the University of Alaska Anchorage.
4. **Reporting and Addressing Incidents:** We ask students, faculty, and staff to remember their obligation to report incidents of hate, discrimination, or harassment and support measures to address and prevent such incidents.
5. **Dialogue and Collaboration:** We will foster open dialogue and collaboration among students, faculty, staff, and community members to create a welcoming and supportive environment for all. If you have suggestions or recommendations of specific actions we can work on together to address this issue, feel free to reach out to the Diversity Committee Tri-chairs at tchen3@alaska.edu, ajharnish@alaska.edu, and myatchmeneff@alaska.edu.

It is only through collective efforts and unwavering commitment that we can combat anti-Asian hate and create a campus environment where every individual feels valued, respected, and safe. We call upon our fellow colleagues, students, and community partners to join us in this endeavor.

Let us stand together against hate and bigotry, and let us reaffirm our shared commitment to a diverse, equitable, and inclusive University of Alaska Anchorage.

Sincerely,

The Faculty Senate Diversity Committee of the University of Alaska Anchorage