

Statement of Solidarity

2 June 2020

Asian and Asian American Studies (ASAM) and Asian Pacific American Staff Association (APASA) raise our collective voices in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement and Black communities:

As classified professionals, faculty, alumni, and former employees at De Anza College, while many of us cannot know or understand how it feels to be Black in America, we are enraged about the fact that yet another solidarity statement must be written because George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, and countless other Black lives have died at the hands of police.

It is also unacceptable that people are still protesting the continuous systemic injustices that continue to harm black and brown bodies in this country.

ASAM and APASA recognize the importance and urgency of showing up for and being a part of those actively resisting police violence and racism towards communities of color, both of which are a part of the legacy of white supremacy.

“Enough is enough!” THEREFORE:

- We refuse to stand by, watch and be complicit with police violence, killings, and racism
- We refuse to hide behind the model minority stereotype that places Asian Americans in proximity to whiteness because we know that dismantling white supremacy depends on it
- We believe that Asian American and Pacific Islander communities need to talk about anti-Black racism and confront the internalized oppression in our families in an effort to dismantle white supremacy
- We encourage members of our own Asian American and Pacific Islander community to engage in anti-racist/Black education so that we may become truly effective allies and build solidarity with the Black community and alongside all oppressed groups in our shared fight against racism and hate
- We acknowledge that without the sacrifices, commitment and struggles that the Black community has historically fought for and continue to do so today, that our own fight for equity, inclusion and social justice would have never culminated
- We stand in strong solidarity with our Black and Brown colleagues, students and community members at De Anza College
- We stand in strong solidarity with those on the streets protesting these injustices and refuse to characterize peaceful protests as looting and riots without calling out the

presence of white supremacists and terrorists who have appropriated those collective cries for justice

- We demand the dismantling of any forms of institutionalized racist systems that require groups to pit against rather than support one another, and
- We denounce Trump's derogatory and racist rhetoric that has only served to inflame and degrade what is already a volatile situation

We stand with Black Communities in solidarity,

Christine Chai, Faculty, ESL; ASAM; IMPACT AAPI; Member, APASA

Dawn Lee Tu, Faculty Director, Professional and Organizational Development; Member, APASA

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APASA & EAC

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Phong Lam, Academic Advisor; Coordinator APASA Scholarship Committee; Member of Black Faculty, Staff, Administrator (BFSA Network)

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Scott Olsen, Workstation & Tech Support II

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