**California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley Issues Statement Condemning Attacks on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**

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*SACRAMENTO, Calif.* — California Community Colleges Chancellor Eloy Ortiz Oakley issued the following statement condemning attacks on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who are increasingly being targeted in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic:

“Discrimination and hate crimes targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have no place in civilized society and must be condemned in the strongest terms. Xenophobia, racism and intolerance threaten our democratic values and social wellbeing. The California Community Colleges remains resolute in supporting and standing with Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, students, faculty and staff. These cowardly acts cannot be tolerated and add to the urgency of our ongoing work and actions to strengthen diversity, equity and inclusion within our system.”

The California Community Colleges is the largest system of higher education in the nation, composed of 73 districts and 116 colleges serving 2.1 million students per year. California community colleges provide career education and workforce training; guaranteed transfer to four-year universities; degree and certificate pathways; and basic skills education in English and math. As the state’s engine for social and economic mobility, the California Community Colleges supports the [Vision for Success](https://www.cccco.edu/About-Us/Vision-for-Success), a strategic plan designed to improve student success outcomes, increase transfer rates and eliminate achievement gaps. For more information, please visit the [California Community Colleges website](https://www.cccco.edu/) or follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/CACommColleges)and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/CalCommColleges).

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