

## Resolution Against Anti-AAPI Violence

Los Medanos College (LMC) Classified Senate affirms its mission to provide a participatory voice for staff in the campus governance process, following the College Shared Governance Model and mandates of AB 1725.

Operating within this framework of participatory governance, the LMC Classified Senate condemns in the strongest possible terms the recent violence, harassment, and discrimination against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) across the country. Our communities are devastated by every act of violence perpetrated against our AAPI colleagues, friends, neighbors, students, and community members.

The LMC Classified Senate expresses our heartfelt sympathy to and solidarity with victims and their families, recognizing that anti-AAPI racism and xenophobia related to the COVID-19 pandemic has put AAPI persons, families, and communities at risk. We mourn the loss of Delaina Ashley Yaun, Xiaojie Tan, Daoyu Feng, Paul Andre Michels, Hyun Jung Grant, Soon Chung Park, Suncha Kim, Yong Ae Yue, Elcias R. Hernandez-Ortiz, and Angelo Quinto, among many others.

**WHEREAS** the LMC Classified Senate recognizes that all people regardless of their ethnicity, race, gender, or cultural background deserve to feel safe on our campus and in our community, and that the [14<sup>th</sup> Amendment](#) guarantees all citizens equal protection under the law. All members of our AAPI communities must be treated with dignity and respect at work and in all other aspects of their lives; and

**WHEREAS** we, the LMC Classified Senate, recognize that the model minority myth (when AAPI are praised for apparent success across academic, economic, and cultural domains in contrast to the perceived achievements of other marginalized racial groups) is a White Supremacist tool of divisiveness meant to pit marginalized communities against one another instead of their oppressors; and

**WHEREAS** there has been a 150% increase in hate, bigotry, discrimination, and bias-motivated harassment against AAPI communities and community members ([NBC news](#)), due in part to the AAPI community being scapegoated for the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in nearly 3,800 reported intentional physical

assaults and acts of violence, some resulting in death, against the AAPI community over the past year dating March 2020 through February 2021 (stopaapihate.org). In addition, AAPI-owned businesses have been targeted for discrimination and suffered undue hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic (Fed. H.Res. 908); and

**WHEREAS** disaggregated data shows that AAPI students continue to be underserved in spite of the fact their percentage of degree awards are the second lowest after African American students at LMC (disaggregated 4cd tableau statistics on transfer and degree completion for 2020-2021); and

**WHEREAS** the oversexualization and fetishization of AAPI women is a serious problem in our culture that cannot be denied as a psychological burden on the AAPI community and one that contributes to AAPI women feeling unsafe and dehumanized; and

**WHEREAS** the slow response of our district and administration to address or even name the issue of rising violence against our AAPI community over the last year demonstrates apathy in action, that silence is violence, as silence dehumanizes those who are suffering.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** The LMC Classified Senate reaffirms our commitment to combat racism, xenophobia, harassment, and all other forms of discrimination, including those against AAPI persons and communities, and to ensure equal opportunity, inclusion, justice, and dignity for all at LMC.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Classified Senate of Los Medanos College call on the President's Cabinet members and District Administrators to discuss and provide safety protocols to ensure the well-being of all Asian American and Pacific Islander staff, faculty, guests and students.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the LMC Classified Senate advocates for the creation of a volunteer campus safety escort service in conjunction with the manager on duty, similar to Compassion in Oakland, recognizing that some marginalized community members may not trust campus police with this task; we advocate for a program which will engage students and other constituencies in affirming our values as a community that stands together in solidarity in times of hardship.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the LMC Classified Senate advocates that Ethnic Studies offerings with a focus on the Asian American experience and local AAPI history and culture be offered in addition to other upcoming Ethnic Studies offerings at LMC.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** The LMC Classified Senate wants to promote more events in the future to recognize, celebrate, and honor the rich culture and contributions our AAPI colleagues, students, and community bring to LMC and our campus mosaic. That the LMC Classified Senate will create space for change and transformation by enhancing our cultural perspectives through education about AAPI contributions to this country and our local communities, advancing cultural competency through culture exchange activities and brave spaces to share our perspectives with one another, and committing to feeling uncomfortable as we learn to be co-conspirators against injustice.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the LMC Classified Senate advocates for hiring more AAPI classified staff, faculty and administrators across all departments, student-facing as well as non-student facing, acknowledging that students' success rates increase when they see role models who look like them, and that tokenism is not an acceptable employment practice at 4CD; our employees in all constituencies must reflect the student population and the communities that we serve.

## Works Cited

[14<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the United States Constitution](#)

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/asian-america/anti-asian-hate-crimes-increased-nearly-150-2020-mostly-n-n1260264> (March 9, 2021)

<https://stopaapihate.org/2020-2021-national-report/> (March 16, 2021)

Bill 116 H.Res.908eh (September 17, 2020)

Resolution of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Condemning Violence, Harassment, and Bias Against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States (March 19, 2021)