



East Los Angeles College Academic Senate

1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park, California 91754-6099

RESOLUTION: CALL TO CONDEMN ANTI-API VIOLENCE

Whereas, The East Los Angeles College (ELAC) Academic Senate has unanimously adopted the “ELAC Academic Senate Resolution Call to Action Against Systemic Racism and Oppression” on June 15, 2020 and the “ELAC Academic Senate Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Statement” on March 10, 2020;

Whereas, About 31 percent of Asian Pacific Islander (API) Americans in the United States report having been subject to discrimination since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a June 2020 Pew Research Center report;

Whereas, The Stop AAPI Hate Reporting Center has documented over 3,800 hate incidents nationally as of March 2021 against APIs; and women comprise 68 percent of respondents, compared to men at 29 percent;

Whereas, On March 16, 2021, eight people (seven women, six of whom were API) in Georgia were killed by a white male shooter;

Whereas, Racism toward APIs has existed since the 19th century when they were perceived as the “Yellow Peril” and has been manifested through a history of labor exploitation; immigration exclusion and deportation; economic discrimination; denial of naturalization; and perception as foreign threats to public health, morals, and national security;

Whereas, The political and racial rhetoric around the current COVID-19 pandemic as the “kung flu” or “China virus,” especially deployed during the Trump administration, perpetuates a history of anti-API prejudice and has promoted discrimination and violence;

Whereas, APIs throughout the country, including those in communities served by East Los Angeles College, have expressed concern about their safety, given the rise of hate crimes and other racially motivated attacks;

Resolved, The ELAC Academic Senate acknowledges and condemns the ongoing misperception of people of Asian descent as “aliens” and not fully American;

Resolved, The ELAC Academic Senate acknowledges and condemns the past and present use of novel diseases to fuel xenophobia and to justify any prejudice and discrimination targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, nationality, and/or religion;

Resolved, The ELAC Academic Senate denounces all xenophobia, hateful rhetoric, discrimination, and acts of violence against APIs during the pandemic as well as in the future;

Resolved, The ELAC Academic Senate reaffirms its “Call to Action Against Systemic Racism and Oppression” adopted on June 15, 2020 and encourages faculty to continue their anti-racist education and work, particularly in light of current events; and

Resolved, The ELAC Academic Senate pledges its full support for the advancement of Ethnic Studies, which has its roots in anti-racist education for and about marginalized communities.

Adopted unanimously by the ELAC Academic Senate on March 23, 2021