

To our graduate students, university, and broader community:

We, the Executive Board of the Council of Graduate Students are deeply saddened by the shootings that transpired last week in Atlanta, GA. These horrific events claimed the lives of eight individuals, six of whom were women, targeted because of their Asian heritage. Our thoughts, first and foremost, are with the loved ones of Soon Chung Park, Hyun Jung Grant, Suncha Kim, Yong Yue, Delaina Ashley Yaun, Paul Andre Michels, Xiaojie Tan, and Daoyou Feng.

We strongly condemn these acts and the [continued rise of violence](#) against people of Asian descent nationwide. We echo the statements from other members of our university community but we also acknowledge that statements must also be followed by action. We recommit ourselves to our work in the roles of researchers, teachers, and students to end the prejudice, hatred, and discrimination that fuel the culture of white supremacy which has led to this increase in violence against Asian, Pacific Islander, and Desi Americans (APIDA).

There is much work to be done to create a culture on our campus, in our community, and in our country that is free from violence, hate, and racism. As a first step, we encourage you to visit the links below, which provide information and mental health resources.

- [Read the Stop Asian Hate Report](#)
- [Anti-Asian Violence Resources](#)
- [Asian American/Pacific Islander Communities and Mental Health](#)
- [Webinar Series – Supporting Asian and Asian American Students through COVID-19](#)

Additionally, below are several organizations and mutual aid funds that are doing crucial work for the APIDA community. We urge you to consider supporting their efforts, in whatever capacity you are able.

- [Red Canary Song](#)
- [CAAAY](#)
- [KIWA](#)
- [Asian Immigrant Women Advocates](#)

CGS stands in solidarity with the Asian and Asian American members of our Ohio State community, and we implore each and every graduate student to do the same. Each and every one of us must speak out when we witness any discrimination rooted in racial bigotry against any group at Ohio State. As President Johnson shared last week, the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) handles the university's response to all reports of harassment, including microaggressions and discrimination.

This team can assist people in learning more about their rights to be free from harassment and discrimination, providing supportive measures and offering resolution options. Please contact OIE at:

- [equity.osu.edu](https://equity.osu.edu) (see report form)
- [equity@osu.edu](mailto:equity@osu.edu), 614-247-5838 or TTY 614-688-8605
- An anonymous concern may also be reported through [EthicsPoint](#).

In addition, if you are in distress, please know Ohio State has resources to help. Students may contact Counseling and Consultation Services at any time by calling **614-292-5766** or [ccs.osu.edu](https://ccs.osu.edu). If calling after hours, press 2 to be connected to a counselor. For a comprehensive list of resources, visit [go.osu.edu/mymentalhealth](https://go.osu.edu/mymentalhealth).

Over the coming weeks as CGS prepares for the 2021-2022 academic year, we will be reaching out and holding conversations with graduate students and leaders all across our campus to develop additional concrete actions we all can take to make Ohio State safe and inclusive for all.

In solidarity,

The Council of Graduate Students Executive Board