

## **Academic Senate Resolution in Support of MPC's AAPI Colleagues and Students**

For consideration at the Academic Senate May 20, 2021 Regular Meeting

Whereas, the United States has a long-standing history of violence toward and oppression of Asians, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders\*, including the Page Act of 1875, the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Angel Island, Japanese American internment during World War II, and a [legacy of racist policies](#) in California targeting people of Asian descent; and

Whereas, even while racism and violence toward Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders persist, acts of oppression, discrimination, and marginalization of the AAPI\* community have routinely been minimized and disregarded through a dangerous vehicle: the [myth of the model minority](#), which not only minimizes the impact of racism and marginalization on the AAPI community, but also attempts to divide the AAPI community from other communities of color; and

Whereas, [verbal and online harassment, physical assaults, and civil rights violations](#) targeting Asians, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, most notably toward women, who report hate incidents at 2.3 times the rate of men, [have increased in the last year](#); and

Whereas, recent hate crimes in Atlanta and Acworth, Georgia, have resulted in the murders of 8 people, 6 of whom were women of Asian descent; and

Whereas, racism, xenophobia, and misogyny are not mutually exclusive; and

Whereas, President Biden, through [executive order](#), has acknowledged the following: “Advancing inclusion and belonging for people of all races, national origins, and ethnicities is critical to guaranteeing the safety and security of the American people...,” adding, “The Federal Government must recognize that it has played a role in furthering these xenophobic sentiments through the actions of political leaders, including references to the COVID-19 pandemic by the geographic location of its origin. Such statements have stoked unfounded fears and perpetuated stigma about Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and have contributed to increasing rates of bullying, harassment, and hate crimes against AAPI persons. These actions defied the best practices and guidelines of public health officials and have caused significant harm to AAPI families and communities that must be addressed;” and

Whereas, AAPI citizens of Monterey County have [expressed fear and apprehension](#) in the face of such recent racist rhetoric, aggression, and violence in the United States; and

Whereas, the California Community College Chancellor’s Office (CCCCO) [Call to Action](#) and the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges’ (ASCCC) [paper on antiracism education](#) have specifically called upon local institutions to act in support of our faculty and students of color within the system;

Resolved, MPC’s Academic Senate condemns all forms of racist speech, racist and/or violent acts, and racist stereotypes directed at Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander students, staff, faculty, and administrators; and

Resolved, MPC’s Academic Senate stands in solidarity with Asian, Asian American, and Pacific Islander students, staff, faculty, and administrators, and commits the Senate’s time, energy, and influence toward advancing equity, antiracist education, and inclusion for our AAPI communities; and

Resolved, MPC's Academic Senate acknowledges the need to include MPC's AAPI communities and issues as part of IDEA Task Force and other campus equity and antiracism efforts, including a review of membership to ensure AAPI representation on all campus committees and work groups; and

Resolved, MPC's Academic Senate supports ongoing discussions about how the campus can support culturally relevant teaching, curriculum, counseling, and programming, including Flex Day activities and other opportunities for providing all colleagues the tools and skills to better support MPC's diverse student population.

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\*AAPI Definition: By "AAPI" or "Asians, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders," we mean any person or descendant of a person with origins or any ancestry in the Far East, Southeast Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands.

Approved by MPC Academic Senate: May 20, 2021