

Dear Community,

I am saddened by, and strongly condemn, recent racially-motivated intimidation, bullying, microaggressions, harassment, and verbal and physical attacks against Asian and Asian American community members. Sadly, the public health emergency spurred by the COVID-19 pandemic has been exploited to foster racism, ethnic scapegoating and outright xenophobia. We recognize that these acts of prejudice have caused significant harm to our Asian and Asian American communities and are the latest iteration of a long history of systemic racism in this country. Cal State San Bernardino strongly embraces inclusion and belonging for all peoples. Xenophobic and racist actions are contrary to our values and are not representative of our institutional beliefs. We stand with, and in support of, all Asian and Asian American members of our campus community.

CSUSB's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion is reflected in our core values and in our actions. We recognize that support must be accompanied by strategies to dismantle systems of oppression. Our most recent efforts include the creation of the President's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Board and the addition of new coordinator positions within the Cross Cultural Center. These two initiatives further enable us to educate the campus about bias and racism while enacting meaningful, action-oriented change. Our Asian Faculty Staff and Student Association is also preparing for a month-long celebration of API heritage in April and the SMSU Asian and Pacific Islander Center continues to hold programs virtually. Both of these areas are a great resource to members of the campus community. Please connect with them at CCC@csusb.edu or on Instagram via the Cross Cultural Center @smsu.ccc.

If you are experiencing distress or would like someone to talk to, we are here to listen. Students may contact Counseling & Psychological Services at <https://www.csusb.edu/caps> for more information or call (909) 537-5040 to make an appointment. Staff and faculty may contact Human Resources at (909) 537-5138 or the Ombuds Office at (909) 537-5635.

As we continue our efforts to combat both COVID-19 and racism, it is more important than ever to remember that we are truly all in this together. Please keep on taking care of one another as well as yourself. The opportunity is within our control, when we emerge from this unparalleled moment in our history, to become a stronger and more compassionate CSUSB.

We can win the future. #CoyoteStrong

Sincerely,

Tomás D. Morales
President