

**The UTSA Faculty Senate stands with President Taylor Eighmy in support of our Asian American and Pacific Islander students, faculty, and staff.**

Although occurring well before the COVID-19 pandemic, high levels of hate and discrimination have been expressed towards people of Asian descent in the U.S. in the past year. On March 16, 2021, the group Stop Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Hate (<https://stopaapihate.org/>) announced that 3,795 anti-Asian acts of hate and discrimination had been reported in the past year. These acts included verbal harassment and shunning, physical assault, civil rights violations, and online harassment. And, on that very day, eight people, including six Asian women, were killed in the mass shootings in Atlanta, Georgia. In the context of these horrific incidents, and many other unreported incidents, the Faculty Senate echoes President Eighmy's condemnation of racism, hate, and violence against Asians and Pacific Islanders, and stands with them in strong and unequivocal support. We ask that we all come together in recognition of our shared responsibility to support inclusivity on our campus and in our communities. We welcome the day when such statements are no longer necessary and all people of diverse backgrounds feel included and safe from discrimination and hate.