

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Sense of Senate Resolution (SSR) Number: SSR0821S
Date of Senate Approval: 4/1/2021

APC Sense of the Senate Resolution 8:

EC 7:

**Sense of the Senate Resolution in Support of
Addressing Bias against Asians**

Whereas, on March 16, 2021, an unconscionable series of mass shootings occurred at three spas or massage parlors in Atlanta, Georgia in which eight people were killed, six of whom were Asian women; and

Whereas, an analysis, [FACT SHEET: Anti-Asian Prejudice March 2021](#), conducted by the Center for the Study of Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, reports

"Anti-Asian hate crime in 16 of America's largest cities increased 145% in 2020 according to an analysis of official preliminary police data by the Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, with the first spike occurring in March and April amidst a rise in COVID cases and negative stereotyping of Asians relating to the pandemic."; and

Whereas, the same analysis using data from the FBI also shows that nationally from 2014 to 2019 all reported hate crimes increased from 5479 to 7314 (33%) with Anti-Asian hate crimes increasing from 140 to 158 (12.86%); and

Whereas, damaging rhetoric and misperceptions concerning of the origins of the Coronavirus continues to harm Asian American Pacific Islander communities; and

Whereas, multiple studies recognize and acknowledge that the false stereotypes of the "perpetual foreigner" and the "model minority" historically have been leveraged against the Asian American Pacific Islander communities in our media and within academia; and

Whereas, on March 17, 2021 UNC Asheville Chancellor Nancy Cable and UNC Asheville Provost Garikai Campbell emailed a statement that

- call for support and solidarity for our Asian students and faculty and staff within the UNCA community
- unequivocally and strongly denounced all acts of violence and the racism, bias, bigotry, misogyny, and xenophobia that prompt such acts; and

Whereas, the mission of the University of North Carolina Asheville “emphasizes critical thinking, clear and thoughtful expression, undergraduate research, community engagement, and free and open inquiry;”

Therefore, be it resolved that The UNC Asheville Faculty Senate

- joins with our senior leadership in their call for support and solidarity for our Asian students, faculty and staff within the UNC Asheville community
- commits itself to reflectively examine its deliberations and decisions with the goal of reducing systemic bias and perpetual misconceptions within our policies and procedures
- commits to developing concrete action plans that promote racial equity, inclusiveness, and diversity
- supports work that encourages all members of our institutional community to individually and collectively commit to recognize, acknowledge, and mitigate implicit biases and misperceptions within our community and our wider society