

23 March 2021

Structures Faculty Support for Asian, Asian-American and Pacific Islander Members of our Community

We mourn the senseless loss of life that occurred in Atlanta last week, and we acknowledge the distress that it brings to members of our community who are Asian, Asian-American and Pacific Islander. Since the beginning of the current pandemic, anti-Asian harassment and violence have risen sharply, so the recent shootings targeted at women of Asian descent are particularly tragic. The subsequent statement by the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office only highlighted the bias and racism that infiltrate the United States' justice system.

We unequivocally condemn the hatred that fuels these attitudes and actions, and we express our strongest support for members of our community who have been impacted by racism, xenophobia, misogyny and discrimination of any form. We would like to highlight campus resources to report incidences of bias against marginalized groups on campus (<https://bart.illinois.edu/>) as well as access to mental health services for students (<http://www.counselingcenter.illinois.edu/>), faculty and staff (<https://humanresources.illinois.edu/fsas/>).

We are committed to being part of a welcoming environment for all people, where everyone is treated with dignity and respect, and we are saddened when we see this ideal not being met. We deeply value being part of a university where people from around the world contribute their experiences, expertise and culture to make this a place where we all learn, grow and are enriched.

Sincerely,

The CEE Structures Faculty

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