

March 18, 2021



**AAVMC Reaffirms Principles of Diversity and Inclusion
in Light of Violence Against AAPI Community**

The AAVMC is committed to embodying and advocating for our core values: Integrity, Service, Diversity, Inclusion and Excellence. We embrace the fundamental virtue and strength of diversity in every dimension, and we affirm the dignity and equity of all people.

Recent events have once again illuminated the damaging and deadly effects of racism, discrimination, and marginalization in our society. We are saddened by the episodes of violence and bias that are impacting the Asian, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities, and recognize that such events prompt feelings of fear, anxiety, and grief, especially when considering the long and persistent history of these injustices. We extend our support to our academic colleagues, students and the broader community.

The wellbeing of our entire community is vital. We encourage our Member Institutions to consider the factors that impact minorities and people of color differently when developing or offering wellbeing support for members of their communities. We encourage everyone in the academic veterinary medical community to embrace the values of diversity, equity and inclusion. This is a time when we need mutual support, understanding, and perhaps most of all, grace.

The [AAVMC Principles of Inclusion](#) state:

We affirm the value of human diversity for the enrichment of the community and believe diversity fosters a climate conducive to success for all members of the veterinary medical education community.

We confront and reject all forms of prejudice and discrimination, including those based on race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious beliefs, political beliefs, geographic, socioeconomic, and educational background or any other differences that have led to misunderstanding, hostility and injustice.

We encourage awareness of the differences in communication, learning, information processing, conceptualizing and the need for educational innovation to enable all to achieve academic success.