Dear Adams School of Dentistry Community,

The UNC Adams School of Dentistry and the University condemn the recent violence that occurred in Atlanta on March 16 2021, and all forms of racism, bigotry and hate crimes against Asians and Asian Americans. We are steadfast in our commitment to celebrate and embrace our unique backgrounds and identities, and to build a safe, inclusive community and express our sincere condolences to the victims’ families and friends.

There has been a significant increase in violence against Asians and Asian Americans in the last year, across the nation and here in North Carolina. This spike in hate crimes weighs heavily on the mental health of our community, the University and across the world.

We know some of our community might fear for their own safety or that of their loved ones and friends. We want to ensure our Asian and Asian American community knows that we hear you, we care, and we support you.

Please remember to take advantage of school and campus resources for help and support:

- Students may make 1:1 appointments with Director of Student Wellness, Kate Thieda or CAPS.
- Employees, including faculty and staff, can reach out to EAP (Employee Assistance Program).
- The Office of Inclusive Excellence and Equity Initiatives is available for students, residents or employees -- you may find a representative for your division or unit here.
- Students and employees are welcome to utilize the resources from the UNC Asian American Center and the Carolina Asia Center.

As a reminder, UNC-Chapel Hill’s Policy on Prohibited Discrimination, Harassment and Related Misconduct, prohibits discrimination and harassment based on protected class identity. Anyone facing the threat of violence should contact Campus Safety/Campus Police at (919) 962-8100.

The entire Adams School of Dentistry family stands in unity with our Asian American community – and all those who experience disproportionate targeting – to denounce hatred, bigotry and racism in all its forms.

Sincerely,

Julie Byerley, MD, MPH  
Interim Dean

Sylvia Frazier-Bowers, DDS, PhD  
Assistant Dean for Inclusive Excellence and Equity Initiatives