05/03 Meeting Summary

Summary of the May 3 APA Justice meeting is now posted at https://bit.ly/3kxkqxP.

We were honored by and thank four new distinguished speakers – Erika Moritsugu, Howard Ou, Agnes Hsu-Tang, and an impacted scientist.

The meeting was a unifying convening of parties from the Biden administration, Capitol Hill, state legislator, concerned organizations and individuals, and one of many scientists impacted by the "China Initiative." We shared the deep concerns about the recent anti-Asian hate and violence but were not surprised by their resurgence from historical racism and discrimination. We each have a part to play and urge all to stand up, speak out, and take actions in this unique moment to stop AAPI hate and reject profiling based on race, ethnicity, and national origin. We are Americans and will not be silenced because we belong. Read more at https://bit.ly/3vWW0nj

The next meeting is scheduled for June 7, 2021.

05/15 National Unity Against Hate Rally

Join voices to take action against acts of hate on AAPI and all other communities. Take a stand against verbal and physical violence perpetrated on Asians. Together, we will fight and prevail to end hate crimes and discrimination in the United States of America. The rallies will begin on May 15, 2021, at 11 am Pacific Time and 2 pm Eastern time, across the US. Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association (APAPA) is the lead organizers for the national rallies, joined by a broad coalition of over 50 organizations, including the California AAPI Legislative Caucus, the NAACP, and the League of Women Voters. Read more at https://www.communityagainsthate.org/.

The rally in Washington DC will be held at Freedom Plaza: https://bit.ly/33ztX10. There will be great speakers, lion dancers, and free Unity Against Hate shirts and "We Belong" yellow whistles! Masks are mandatory. The organizers will provide extra masks, hand sanitizer, and water. If you are not feeling well, please stay home. Covid-19 precautions will be enforced at the event. Read more at https://bit.ly/3gMcxWL

According to StopAAPIHate.org report, the number of hate incidents it received increased significantly from 3,795 to 6,603 during March 2021. Read the full report here: https://bit.ly/33wh3RI

On April 29, 2021, the 1990 Institute rolled out a "Call It What it is: Racism Against Asian Americans" video. Through no fault of their own, Asian Americans throughout history have been blamed, scapegoated and ignored. This compelling video captures the past and present events affecting bias and racism towards Asians in America and what this community has had to endure as Americans. Let's heal from the past in order to move forward together. Watch the video here: https://bit.ly/3biXP6b (10:01)

On May 3, 2021, The Asian American Foundation, a new foundation formed by prominent Asian American business leaders, <u>announced an initiative</u> to fund work on a range of problems affecting the community including a rise in violence and harassment tied to the coronavirus pandemic. It has already raised \$125 million among its board members to support AAPI organizations and causes over the next five years and will launch the "AAPI Giving Challenge" to galvanize even more resources to meet the needs of AAPI communities. According to TAAF, these are the three areas to focus their initial efforts:

- **Anti-Hate:** TAAF will support organizations and leaders building long-term solutions for measuring and defending against anti-AAPI violence.
- **Data & Research:** TAAF will work to develop the common data standards to better track incidents of hate and violence targeting AAPI communities, while investing in data-driven research that identify the needs of AAPI communities to inform future policymaking, advocacy, and philanthropy.
- **Education**: TAAF will help create K-12 and higher education curricula that reflect the history of Asian American and Pacific Islanders as part of the American story. TAAF will also fund storytelling across the arts, media and film to include the AAPI experience and AAPI contributions to the tapestry of American history.

Read more at: https://prn.to/3y4HewM

Racial Profiling, Security, and Future of Science

Frank H. Wu, President of Queens College, City University of New York, appeared as part of a roundtable briefing on research integrity, for senior staffers to members of Congress. The virtual event on May 5 was organized by the majority and the minority of the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology; Commerce, Science, and Transportation; and Armed Services (House and Senate). In his remarks, President Wu emphasized three "Cs" that should be promoted and one "C" to be avoided. He shared his written submission with APA Justice, which can be viewed and downloaded at https://bit.ly/3ezWPwH

On May 7, 2021, Chemical & Engineering News published a cover story <u>Fear and confusion continue over research interactions with China</u>. According to the report, many Asian scientists came to Roger Wakimoto, vice chancellor for research at the University of California, Los Angeles, with concerns that they were being discriminated against, feeling that the US federal government was targeting them and questioning

their loyalty to the US. The scientists were "using two words: racial profiling." Quoting Seton Hall Law Professor Margaret Lewis, the article points out that the Department of Justice has lumped together vastly different types of prosecutions. A few cases involve attempts to steal trade secrets, but many others are not related to espionage at all. For academics charged under the "China Initiative," many of the charges instead center on failing to report payments from Chinese institutions or pay taxes on them, as well as not disclosing those relationships. The petition with 30,000 co-sginers sent by Advancing Justice | AAJC to the President was cited as part of the effort by advocacy groups to reexamine, if not end, the "China Initiative." Meanwhile, confusion about what scientists can and cannot do and what they must disclose has been amplified by a multitude of new directives. Very disturbingly, the Biden administration has allowed rules issued in the last days of the Trump administration to go into effect instead of pausing them for review, as the administration did for other policies. Read more at https://bit.ly/2RLGFHC

On May 7, 2021, CNN reported on Asian American diplomats say discrimination holds them back as US competes with China. According to the report, Asian American diplomats, including U.S. Rep. Andy Kim, say that as they try to serve their country, they face disproportionate hurdles in the form of extremely drawn-out security clearance waits, restrictions on where they can serve -- sometimes based on incorrect information -- and a flawed appeals process. Democratic Rep. Ted Lieu of California told Secretary of State Anthony Blinken in a recent House hearing that assignment restrictions "not only affect an employee's ability to get promoted to senior leadership, it also affects recruiting and retention. It deprives the United States potentially of cultural and language expertise, and it sends the false message that people who look like me happen to be more disloyal." The situation has gotten worse in the past few years because of "bipartisan and especially Republican fear-mongering about China trying to infiltrate all aspects of society." According to CNN, restrictions had affected 166 employees in 2015 and 168 in 2016. In 2017, that number nearly doubled to 307. Read more at https://cnn.it/33zV8c2

On May 9, 2021, World Affairs hosted a podcast titled "When Your Country Doesn't Trust You." US Congressman Andy Kim talked about how the power competition between China and the US creates fear and anxiety on the homefront, which often escalates to anti-Asian rhetoric. Then, the stories of two scientists, Wen Ho Lee and Xiaoxing Xi, were told. Both were racially profiled by the FBI—and falsely accused of spying for the Chinese government. Listen to the podcast here: https://bit.ly/3y29eRs

On May 9, 2021, East Asia Forum published an article titled <u>Washington is playing a losing game with China</u>. "America's latest policies toward China will prove self-defeating. US–China relations now exemplify Freeman's third law of strategic dynamics: for every hostile act there is a more hostile reaction," said Former US assistant secretary of defense for international security affairs Chas W Freeman. Read more at: https://bit.ly/3hiDsd2

On March 31, 2021, the Baker Institute hosted a webinar on America at A Tipping Point: Science and Technology Opportunities For The Biden Administration. At the webinar, John Hennessy, former president of Stanford University and chairman of the board of directors for Alphabet Inc., and Norman Augustine, retired CEO and chairman of Lockheed Martin, discussed the policies that the Biden administration can enact to address the issues and recommendations highlighted in the "Perils of Complacency" report and to strengthen the American research enterprise. Neal Lane, Baker Institute senior fellow in science and technology policy, moderated the event. Read more at https://bit.ly/3fdsV02

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