

Official Statement from SIGDOC: A Response to Anti-Asian Racism

The SIGDOC Executive Committee mourns the passing of Daoyou Feng, Hyun Jung Grant, Suncha Kim, Paul Andre Michels, Soon Chung Park, Xiaojie Tan, Delaina Ashley Yaun, and Yong Ae Yue, who were all victims of the mass murder in Georgia on March 16, 2021—an act driven by anti-Asian racism and misogyny. We stand with our Asian members as well as the broader Asian communities around the world in speaking out against the despicable rise in anti-Asian hate incidents over the last two years and in acknowledging the reprehensible and inexcusable historical legacies of anti-Asian political oppression and marginalization in the United States.

The SIGDOC Executive Committee urges its members to educate themselves on the systemic marginalization of the Asian communities in their own regions, institutions, and neighborhoods and encourages its members to support advocacy and rights groups forwarding justice for them. Organizations and groups that relate directly to the work SIGDOC members do, think, and write about are:

- Asian Pacific Environmental Network (apen4ej.org/who-is-apen)
- Asian Americans Advancing Justice (advancingjustice-atlanta.org/mission)
- Chinatown Community for Equitable Development (ccedla.org)
- Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (apalanet.org)

SIGDOC as an organization will not tolerate any degree of anti-Asian racism, harassment, marginalization, or bias in its conferences, organizational materials, initiatives, and publications. We support unequivocally our Asian members and will work to ensure that our organization is continually equipped to support current and future efforts for justice against anti-Asian racism.

At SIGDOC we pair statements of values and intentions with material commitments. We already have underway: a by-laws review; research grants for equity and social justice research; and a review of our mission and processes with a specifically anti-racist lens (Designing Justice Fellows Program, currently in process). We have also signed onto the “Anti-Racist Scholarly Reviewing Practices: A Heuristic for Editors and Reviewers” document co-created by leaders in the field of technical communication to hold us accountable to our commitment to anti-racist practices.

Questions about our positions or initiatives can be directed to SIGDOC Chair Dan Richards (dprichar@odu.edu).

The SIGDOC Executive Committee,
Dan Richards (Chair)
Sarah Read (Vice-Chair)
Susan Youngblood (Secretary-Treasurer)
Emma Rose (Past Chair)
Derek G. Ross (Editor in Chief, CDQ)