



# CPW-UAW

## A UNION FOR POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHERS AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY



### **Columbia postdocs condemn anti-Asian violence and racism.**

It has been a week since the rampage in Atlanta that targeted Asian and Asian American women. Over the past year we have witnessed an alarming surge in violence and racist attacks targeting the Asian and Asian-American communities. This is a pattern seen all across the nation including a surge in attacks here [in NYC](#), leaving many New Yorkers vulnerable and unnerved.

Many of our fellow postdocs, grad students, faculty colleagues, staff and neighbors are Asian, Asian-American and Pacific Islanders. We identify with them, firmly repudiate these attacks, and commit to fostering a safe and inclusive environment in our community.

Anti-racism is inextricably linked with our union's commitment to fostering united communities with a strong collective voice and defending our rights as workers and neighbors.

Furthermore, diversity acts as a catalyst for creativity at academic institutions. Our respective fields greatly benefit from having a rich workforce where scholars from a myriad different backgrounds come together to solve the world's most complex and compelling issues: from tackling climate change to curing dreadful diseases, academia is enriched by a plural and multicultural community. We renew our commitment as a union to forge and protect a diverse and safe academic workplace.

Our union at Columbia along with other UAW academic locals has taken a strong stance against any racist attempts to divide our communities. Last year [we campaigned to push back xenophobic visa policies](#) from the previous administration and we will continue to fight back against racism in our workplace and broader society.

The intersectionality in discriminatory behavior can leave some of us especially vulnerable. We invite all of our members to share their concerns and experiences inside and out of the workplace and pledge to support all of our colleagues. If you want to get involved in your union to strengthen our collective voice as researchers in the university and in the broader society, you can [become a member](#) and [sign up for our working group on anti-racism, diversity and inclusion here](#).

In solidarity,

Executive Board and Anti-racism, Inclusion and Diversity Working Group  
**Columbia Postdoctoral Workers-UAW Local 4100**