



## **NADOHE Expresses Concern and Support for Those Affected in Terms of Health, Health Equity and Economic Security**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 13, 2020 – Fort Lauderdale, FL. – At a time of national and global crisis due to the COVID 19 pandemic, NADOHE expresses its concern and support for all those affected in terms of health, health equity and economic security.

As diversity practitioners, we are especially mindful of the disproportionate impacts experienced by some members of campus communities. These include low-income students and others faced with increased food and housing insecurity, and those whose educations have been disrupted by lack of access to technology. We are aware that students who were already marginalized due to their undocumented and DACA status, LGBTQ identities or other factors may become even more vulnerable to harassment or exploitation at this time.

Additionally, other members of our campus communities face painful disruption and stress. These include staff members – often the lowest paid staff members – who are unable to work remotely and therefore continue to shoulder the increased risks of coronavirus exposure. National data indicates that COVID 19 is disproportionately affecting the health of people of color as well as older people, with implications for the wellbeing of our students, staff, their family members and support networks.

We deplore the increased harassment and xenophobia directed at Chinese, Chinese American and other Asian individuals, as well as the rise of revolting online harassment through strategies such as zoom bombing.

At this challenging time, NADOHE applauds the role higher education's researchers are playing in fighting this disease and all those who seek to build inclusive, equitable campuses. As Higher Education diversity practitioners, we may be temporarily working online, but we remain committed to outreach and access for those who are most vulnerable. We will continue to resist discrimination and harassment and advocate passionately for the visibility and well-being of all members of our communities.

As the pre-eminent voice for chief diversity officers in higher education and with nearly 1,000 members, NADOHE's mission is to lead higher education towards inclusive excellence through institutional transformation. For more information about NADOHE, visit [www.nadohe.org](http://www.nadohe.org).

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