Duke Asian Students Association, Duke Diya and Duke Asian American Alliance Student Demands

An Revised Call to Action Issued to the Duke Administration on January 21, 2016

On November 20, 2015, we reiterated the 2013 demands of the Asian American Alliance. As specified on November 20th, we expect the creation of an initial plan by March 1, 2016 of implementation of these demands. This plan should be reviewed by a committee of students and faculty of color, including members of the Asian Students Association, Duke’s South Asian Student Society, and the Asian American Alliance.

Taking into account the current context of Duke, as well as the needs of current students, we have restructured and reprioritized our call to action as follows:

1. To understand why previous efforts did not result in tangible change, **we demand an explanation for why the Student Conduct: A-Z Policies were not modified and that a Group Bias Incident Task Force was not created.** These specific requests are located in full in points #1 and #2 of the historical 2013 demands.

2. To fully achieve Duke’s commitment to the principles of “honesty, trustworthiness, fairness and respect for others,” **we demand that the Duke Community Standard and Office of Student Conduct’s Undergraduate Policies explicitly address discriminatory, marginalizing, and oppressive conduct.**

We call for the Duke Community Standard pledge to include the following statement:

“I will value others regardless of race, class, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, age, ability status, citizenship status, or other identity.”

3. To address the lack of understanding of Asian American issues that are rooted in a historic and ongoing racialization in this country, **we demand the hiring of four full-time tenure stream faculty members who specialize in Asian American studies in any humanities or social sciences field, as well as the development of a certificate in Asian American studies.** The foundation for an Asian American studies academic program, distinct from Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, exists at peer institutions but is conspicuously absent at Duke.

In order to ensure that momentum continues and individual faculty are not isolated and expected to develop a program alone, we demand one faculty hire per year, starting with the 2016-2017 academic year. The gateway course for the certificate should be offered starting the 2016-2017 academic year, with the capstone being offered starting the 2017-2018 academic year.

4. To address the lack of Asian American administration in student facing roles, **we demand the creation of an Asian American Cultural Center.** There is currently no explicit institutional support for Asian Americans on campus, which is unacceptable, especially considering the lack of representation and racial identity development for Asian Americans in the United States. A Program Coordinator for the center should be hired by the 2016-2017 academic year, with a full center with at least three administrators operating within five years.
Demands for an Inclusive Duke

Developed by the Asian American Alliance
A Call to Action Issued to the Duke Administration on February 11, 2013

1. To fully achieve Duke’s commitment to the principles of “honesty, trustworthiness, fairness and respect for others,” we demand that the Duke Community Standard and Office of Student Conduct’s Undergraduate Policies explicitly address discriminatory, marginalizing, and oppressive conduct by recognized student groups.

We call for the Duke Community Standard pledge to include the following statement:
“I will value others regardless of race, class, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, national origin, age, ability status, citizenship status, or other identity.”

We call for the Student Conduct: A-Z Policies to clarify that entire student groups, not just individuals, will be held accountable for the conduct of individual members acting on behalf of

2. To empower students, particularly historically marginalized students, to effectively redress group violations of this policy that detract from an inclusive environment, we demand the establishment of a Group Bias Incident Task Force (GBITF), to adjudicate accountability and reparative measures for all future group bias incidents. The task force must:

   - Be constituted exclusively of a student leader from each of the following
     1. Campus organizations representing historically marginalized groups
     2. The interfraternity Council, Duke Panhellenic Association, National Pan-Hellenic
     3. The respondent organization
     4. The complainant organization (or the complainant individual)
   - Meet on an ad-hoc basis in response to or in prevention of discriminatory actions on the part of houses or student groups;
   - Have the power to collaboratively decide and implement accountability or reparative measures;
   - Be under the purview of the Office of Student Conduct Council, and Inter-Greek Council

3. To address the lack of understanding of Asian American issues that are rooted in a historic and ongoing racialization in this country, we demand the hiring of three full-time tenure stream faculty members who specialize in Asian American studies in any humanities or social sciences field. The foundation for an Asian American studies academic program, distinct from Asian & Middle Eastern Studies, exists at peer institutions but is conspicuously absent at Duke.