



WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT “THE STATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN CALIFORNIA – ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, PACIFIC ISLANDER” REPORT

"With more than 48 ethnicities within the broader Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) category, the facts and data in this report paint a more accurate picture of the issues AANHPI students face in accessing higher education. Policymakers and higher education leaders must suspend the practice of seeing our community as a monolithic whole. Our most disadvantaged AANHPI students continue to face significant barriers to educational access and success, including high poverty and low graduation rates at community colleges and four-year Universities. In addition, the impact and significance of decades of disinvestment in California's public education system has created less opportunity for many students of color, including AANHPI students."

Stewart Kwoh
President & Executive Director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Los Angeles

"Every year, Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund garners record number of applications from the State of California and we hear from students across the dozens of ethnicities and sub-ethnicities. This report highlights the needs of communities that have been overlooked for decades – it is imperative for all stakeholders to read this report and take a look at the disaggregated data to understand that all Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) are not the same; this knowledge and understanding is critical for long-term and sustainable impact in California and the nation."

Neil Horikoshi
President & Executive Director
Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund

"Asian Americans appear to be the model minority and popular misconception is that they are overrepresented in higher education, but this report by the Campaign College Opportunity highlights otherwise. Asians are not one monolithic group that speak one language; there are 48 ethnicities within the Asian American and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities that face different barriers which include poverty and English proficiency. It is critical that the state be sensitive of obstacles students of immigrant backgrounds face, and that we invest our resources accordingly."

Fiona Ma
Member, State Board of Equalization

“Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (APIs) are the fastest growing populations in California, and they are also among the most diverse in terms of their language needs and life circumstances. This report provides, for the first time, an incredibly detailed portrait of the higher education needs of this growing population, using a wide array of survey and administrative data. This report will set the benchmark for future studies on this topic, which will hopefully be aided by ongoing state efforts to provide more regular detailed reporting on APIs in higher education.”

Karthick Ramakrishnan
Professor of Public Policy, UC Riverside
Member, California Commission on APIA Affairs

“This important report focuses much-needed attention on the disparate backgrounds, needs, and outcomes of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander students in California.”

Judy K. Sakaki, Ph.D.
Vice President – Student Affairs, University of California

“The API population in California is a remarkably diverse community. They are also a growing critical mass of our student body. For these reasons, it is critical for higher education practitioners and policymakers to understand their varied needs and challenges to help students reach their full potential.”

Dr. Robert Teranishi
Professor of Education
Morgan and Helen Chu Endowed Chair in Asian American Studies
Co-Director, Institute for Immigration, Globalization, and Education
University of California, Los Angeles