March 31, 2021

The members of the LGBTQ+ Staff and Faculty Caucus at Louisiana State University stand in solidarity with the victims of the March 16, 2021 mass shootings in Atlanta, their families, and communities. The murders of Xiaojie Tanj, Delaina Yaun, Paul Andre Michels, Daoyou Feng, Yong Ae Yue, Hyun Jung Grant, Soon Chung Park, and Suncha Kim are a chilling reminder of the vulnerabilities all members of minoritized groups face in the US and elsewhere.

The shootings remind us that Asian Americans and Pacific

One cannot claim to support LGBTQ+ rights without also advocating for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. The shooter who murdered eight people, most of them Asian American women, claimed he did so out of religious shame and a desire to ñremove temptation.ò Those
of us in the LGBTQ+ community know all too well that shame, whether it be our own or othersô, can be deadly.

We express our heartbreak in the aftermath of these murders, and our solidarity with all the intersecting identities impacted by them. We also acknowledge that this response, a retroactive public statement, is not a public statement. We