March 24, 2021

Dear Faculty, Students, Staff and Alumni of the School of Arts and Sciences,

The recent mass murder of innocent people in Atlanta, the majority of whom were Asian women, is shocking, abhorrent, and despicable.

I join President Holloway and Chancellors Cantor, Marsh, Molloy, and Strom in denouncing anti-Asian racism and I join them in expressing support for the Asian community, especially the Asian community here at Rutgers.

The increasing violence around the country perpetrated against people of Asian background is deeply disturbing and it challenges us, once again, to confront racism in our society and in our everyday lives.

There are no easy solutions to this old and pernicious problem. But there will be no solution, whatsoever, without speech. Each of us must speak up if one experiences a racist act and speak out if one witnesses a racist act. But most importantly, we must speak together about racism.

Speaking together, and speaking in truth, is what creates a beloved community. I assure all my colleagues, especially my Asian colleagues, they are very much part of that beloved community.

Sincerely,

Peter March
Executive Dean of Arts and Sciences