

BAATF and BAASA
Brandeis Asian American Task Force
Brandeis Asian American Students Association
Statement of Support, November 20th, 2015

Brandeis Asian American Task Force (BAATF) and Brandeis Asian American Students Association (BAASA) would like to officially send out a statement in support of **Brandeis Students of Color Demands 2015**.

Brandeis Asian American Task Force (BAATF) is a grassroots, Brandeis University based and focused, student organization created to advocate for the needs and betterment of the Asian American community here at Brandeis University. The purpose of BAATF is to gather and mobilize students around finding solutions to issues specific to the Asian American community here at Brandeis.

We would like to state that we do not speak for all Asian American Brandeis students. We also acknowledge that there may be concerns about the inclusivity of the Brandeis Students of Color Demands 2015, due to how the majority of demands are centered on the Black community at Brandeis. Our initial reactions may be to feel left out or dismissed as Brandeis students of color, but we must shift perspective.

The liberation of black people is integral to the liberation of all people of color. We must unite, instead of divide, when confronting larger entities of power. In the long journey and struggle of activism we must support each other instead of dismissing fellow genuine efforts to reform Brandeis University or the larger issues within society.

To have the specific needs of the Asian American community met we must look in a constructive, forwards-oriented, direction; we must work towards articulating and advocating for our needs while working together with, not against, our fellow students like Brandeis Students of Color Demands 2015.

We, BAATF, also have a constructive plan for the establishment of an Asian American Studies Program at Brandeis University but have decided to delay its release to Monday November 23, 2015 to maintain focus and momentum for Brandeis Students of Color Demands 2015.

BAASA stands in support of the Brandeis Students of Color Demands 2015. As a community of color on campus, we have a responsibility to not stand in silence and let

these events just us pass by. Therefore, we call on the Asian American students on campus to take action and stand in solidarity with other students of color. As Asian American students on campus we must pay attention to the events going on, learn from our peers, and engage in dialogues about these issues. Do not fall into the trap of believing that we exist outside of these conflicts. We will make our voices heard.

To access more information on BAATF please reference our Facebook page (Facebook.com/BAATF) or contact us at Brandeisaatf@gmail.com. Information available is the following: BAATF Manifesto, call for members, and op-ed on the call for Asian American Studies.

To contact BAASA, please reach us at our Facebook page Facebook.com/Brandeisaasa or our email Brandeisaasa@gmail.com