

**Statement of Solidarity**  
**Teachers College, Columbia University**  
**School Psychology Program**

**Mar 2, 2023**



School psychology faculty and students at Teachers College, Columbia University were saddened and infuriated to learn about the racist treatment of Dr. Celeste Malone, the President of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and her guests, by Hyatt Corporation staff while at the NASP 2023 Convention in Denver, CO.

For some of the most prominent Black school psychologists in our country to be profiled this way at a conference focused on Radical Hope and Authentic Healing is a stark reminder of the pervasive and insidious nature of race-based discrimination. Further, it highlights the importance of the continuous conversation and action needed to dismantle oppressive systems.

We were pleased to see the Hyatt Corporation publish a statement of acknowledgement and apology to Dr. Malone and look forward to watching them follow through on the agreed upon restorative actions.

We are committed to action that supports Black school psychologists and other racially minoritized current and future school psychologists. To that end, we pledge to raise and donate funds to organizations highlighted by Dr. Malone (e.g., Black School Psychologists Network, NASP Minority Scholarship Program). We are also committed to supporting BIPOC students at Teachers College to present at and contribute to future conferences (e.g., NASP, American Psychological Association, New York Association of School Psychologists). In discussion with BIPOC students, the efforts will include better preparing students to be conference presenters (e.g., providing resources about types of presentation and conferences, facilitating a Q&A session about the submission process and conferences, practice sessions before conferences) as well as advocating and strategizing to fund associated conference costs (e.g., understanding university processes to proactive guidance about funding, paying for poster printing, sharing resources for student funding).

We look forward to sharing a vehicle for raising funds for these endeavors and hope that the broad TC School Psychology community of faculty, alumni, and students join us in supporting these efforts in whatever way they can. We welcome thoughts and ideas regarding our commitment to supporting our BIPOC students and colleagues from within and outside of the TC community.