

Math Alliance Statement on Systemic and Structural Racism

The National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences (Math Alliance) offers on behalf of our mentors, students, and partner organizations, our deepest condolences to the families of all of the African-American women and men unjustly killed by law enforcement.

We too watch in disbelief and horror as these unjust murders are steadily streamed into our homes—in particular the murder of Mr. George Floyd whose life was brutally and callously ended by Officer Chauvin on May 25, 2020, as others who swore to protect and serve their community stood by and did nothing to stop his murder. These heinous acts are illustrative of the systemic and structural racism that exists within the United States and the world at large. We unequivocally stand up to say and to affirm that Black Lives Matter.

Anti-black animus and systemic racism pervades every aspect of our shared experiences and our mathematics community has not been exempt from this. In fact, it is precisely these experiences which led to the creation of The National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences (Math Alliance), whose original name – the *Alliance for the Production of African American Ph.D.s in the Mathematical Sciences* — reflects our animating concern that African Americans were significantly underrepresented at all levels in the mathematical sciences.

The [goals](#) of the Math Alliance are founded on the premise that we must address issues of systemic racism in mathematics to improve the recruitment, retention, graduate school completion, and professional career progression of underrepresented minorities in the mathematical sciences, in particular Black scholars.

In light of the continued oppression and systemic racism of black and brown people, the work of the Math Alliance must expand. We are now redoubling our commitment to proactive and responsible leadership in addressing the needs of black and brown students in the mathematical sciences.

To this end, we are forming an Advocacy and Policy Committee whose charge is:

- to bring to light established best practices within the mathematics community which support the recruitment, retention, graduate school completion, and professional career progression of underrepresented minorities in the mathematical sciences, and
- to investigate and document structural impediments which have led to unacceptably slow progress in these areas.

This committee's work will amplify the Math Alliance's efforts to build, support, and sustain an inclusive mathematical community.

The Math Alliance will continue to fight systemic and structural racism through mentoring, advocacy, and through our reaffirmed commitment to providing equal opportunities and equal access to Alliance programs.

Now more than ever, the Math Alliance reiterates its commitment to social justice, equity and inclusion for all, including Black, Latinx, Native American, and Pacific Islanders within the mathematical sciences.