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STATEMENT

Students call on Dalhousie University for action on misogyny, homophobia and racism on campus

The Dalhousie Student Union is calling on Dalhousie University to take action following the release of the report of the external Task Force on Misogyny, Sexism, and Homophobia in the Faculty of Dentistry. The Dalhousie Student Union is committed to fighting for a safer campus that is free from misogyny, sexism, homophobia, racism and all other forms of oppression. It is, therefore, encouraging to see that the report of the external Task Force supports this goal and many recommendations students have made in the past.

In particular, the Dalhousie Student Union is pleased to see that the external Task Force supports students' call for a fully-funded ombudsperson and better supports for students seeking to make complaints regarding discrimination and harassment. These recommendations echo the concerns students have raised regarding the lack of options for students attempting to draw attention to systemic issues of sexism, racism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism and other forms of discrimination and harassment on campus. The external Task Force has recognized that student action and mobilization is essential to identifying issues and proposing solutions. The Dalhousie Student Union encourages the University to embrace this perspective.

Dalhousie University has a duty to ensure a safe learning and working environment for all students and members of the Dalhousie community. To that end, the University should actively work towards challenging oppression on campus. The external Task Force has identified a number of concerning incidents of discrimination and harassment, as well as significant distrust about the university's ability to address these concerns and a history of "sweeping things under the rug." The University administration must work with students, staff, faculty, and other stakeholders to make systemic changes, improve safety on campus, challenge oppression, and restore trust within the Dalhousie community.

The Dalhousie Student Union welcomes the opportunity to work with and alongside Dalhousie University on initiatives that challenge the status quo and increase services to students facing oppression. In doing so, the Dalhousie Student Union believes Dalhousie University could be a leader in creating a campus and society free of oppression.

Read the submission of the Dalhousie Student Union to the external Task Force [here](#).

The Dalhousie Student Union is the province's largest student union, representing over 18,500 undergraduate and graduate students at all campuses of Dalhousie University.

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For more information or to set up an interview with a spokesperson contact:

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