

We, fifteen graduate students, undergraduate students, and postdoctoral scholars from the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Dartmouth College, want to clarify the nature of the allegations against three professors in our department: Todd Heatherton, William Kelley, and Paul Whalen.

As a subset of the people who have provided accounts of our own experiences or corroborated the experiences of others to the College's investigators, we wish to dispel any sensational or inaccurate accounts of these allegations and to counteract any efforts to minimize their severity. We learned in July that each of these three professors allegedly violated one or more of the following Dartmouth policies: Employee Sexual Misconduct Policy, Employee Sexual Harassment Policy, and Policy on Instructor-Student Consensual Relationships. In our collective experience, these professors have all created a hostile academic environment in which sexual harassment is normalized.

Dartmouth College has been investigating these allegations. We are cooperating with this ongoing investigation, and believe Dartmouth has thus far handled the allegations seriously and professionally. To our knowledge, each professor's case is being treated independently. We hope that this investigation continues efficiently and that the outcome is clearly communicated to the Dartmouth community.

We are encouraged by the response of other members of our department and academic community, who continue to support our careers through this process.

If you have experienced or witnessed anything that you believe should be considered in this ongoing investigation, we encourage you to contribute by contacting the Dartmouth Title IX office (603-646-0922; TitleIX@Dartmouth.edu). We recognize how challenging it can be to speak out about or confront issues related to sexual harassment and assault. You're not alone. We want to remind members of the graduate and undergraduate community that confidential resources are available through WISE (866-348-WISE) and/or through Counseling and Human Development (CHD) at Dartmouth (603-646-9442).

We agree with President Hanlon that sexual misconduct and harassment have no place in the Dartmouth community. They also have no place in the academic community at large. We hope that this endeavor will help combat a pervasive toxic culture that affects women in all stages of their careers.