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Introduction

The Alumni Liaison Committee (ALC) was founded in 2007 as a listening post for sentiment expressed by graduates of the College, as well as its graduate schools and programs.

On behalf of the Dartmouth Alumni Council, the ALC is charged with gathering, synthesizing, assembling and conveying a series of snapshots of alumni conversation, if you will, to a target audience that includes the Board of Trustees, as well as the College’s senior leadership and the alumni body as a whole.
Alumni Liaison Committee Membership

Emily Abernathy-Jones ’95
Luke Antal ’07
Alec Casey ’88
Harry Enten ’11
Louisa Guthrie ’79, Association of Alumni President
Bob Higgins ’81
Adrienne “Tee” Lotson ’82
Melanie Pastuck ’11
Alexandra Roberts ’02
Jacques “Jack” Steinberg ’88
Rich Stoddart ’85
Monique Burns Thompson ’88

The following pages comprise the ALC’s 2018–19 report — and the 12th report since the ALC’s founding. As in the past, this year’s report draws almost exclusively on correspondence sent via email to the Alumni Council’s 125 members, who represent more than a half century of graduating classes, as well as regions of the nation (and the world) and affiliated groups.

Among the topics on their minds during the 2018–19 academic year, at least based on this correspondence, were sexual misconduct on campus and the class action lawsuit filed by seven current and former students in November (and settled in August). To a somewhat lesser extent, alumni wrote about matters of academics, governance and admissions, among other areas.

A series of pie charts on page 6 provide more detail on the subjects of communication to the Council, as well as the basic demographics of those alumni who write to the Council. In the pages that follow those charts, the members of the ALC then provide summaries of the correspondence received in “hot topic” areas, as well as highlight selected quotes that give a sense of the flavor of those missives.

This past spring, in partnership with Board of Trustees Chair Laurel Richie ’81, the ALC surveyed the Trustees to ask those in our principal audience how the efforts of the ALC might evolve to enhance their sense of alumni sentiment. While reaffirming the value of an annual report such as this one, they also asked that the ALC communicate out what it is hearing at more regular intervals during the academic year — and also make a more concerted effort to capture the essence of conversations among Dartmouth alumni taking place on a range of social media platforms.

It will fall to future iterations of the ALC — to be led in 2019–20 by Adrienne “Tee” Lotson ’82, immediate past president of the Alumni Council, followed by the current council president, Alec Casey ’88 — to work through these recommendations and set a path forward.

In addition to the dedicated, hard-working members of the 2018–19 ALC, whose names appear on this page, I wish to thank our partners in Alumni Relations — especially Cheryl Bascomb ’82; Liz Nunez; Meg C. Ramsden ’87; and Amberlee Barbagallo. We also thank the designer of this year’s report, Michael Molanphy.

— Jacques “Jack” Steinberg ’88
   Chair, Alumni Liaison Committee, 2018-19
OVERVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE ALUMNI COUNCIL AND ALUMNI LIAISON COMMITTEE

Email Messages Received by Topic

CORRESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Alumni Correspondents by Decade

Alumni Correspondents by Gender

Female

Male
Correspondence Themes and Topics

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT

During a year in which center stage was occupied by a lawsuit — filed by seven former and current students who alleged that Dartmouth did not adequately respond to their complaints of sexual misconduct in cases involving three former faculty members in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences — the greatest number of emails to the ALC came from alumni concerned about the allegations of sexual misconduct and Dartmouth’s response. Of the 162 emails the ALC received, most grappled with how alumni could reconcile affection for the College with concern it had let its students down.

As the issue moved from investigation to settlement, some alumni from the class of 1952 took up their pens to express dismay at the behavior of the three professors — and confusion over how such longstanding behavior could have persisted. As one alumnus from the Class of 1964 noted, “These matters are not that hard to deal with if you are not worried about the reputation of your company or institution and are committed to doing the right thing and doing it without delay.”

While there was disagreement in the details — whether the college responded swiftly and decisively (a minority of correspondents) or slowly and ineffectively (a majority); whether the accusers were seeking financial gain (only a couple) or legitimate recourse (most); whether the Title IX office was responsive or disorganized, there was uniform agreement that sexual misconduct by faculty has no place on Dartmouth’s campus.

While a number of alumni recognized the College’s duty to defend itself in a lawsuit, many alumni, and women, in particular, were outraged by what they characterized as the College’s “aggressive stance” in attempting to deny anonymity to the plaintiffs. An alumna from the Class of 1981 went on to say that, “Even if their technical arguments had merit, the ‘headline risk’ at minimum, not to mention the lost goodwill among alumni, additional reputational hits, etc., would seem to be too great to merit this approach.” There was obvious pain in some of the comments, especially those from students who had experienced sexual misconduct on campus or helped friends through it. A woman from the Class of 2005 lamented, “that in going after the plaintiffs in this case, they are compounding the harm they have already done...Stripping anonymity from these plaintiffs is the definition of the abuse of power.” Another male alumnus from the Class of 2001 stated, “I am particularly pained that Dartmouth is seeking to force these women to choose between seeking justice and remaining anonymous.”

...the College wants us to know that a unified sexual harassment policy — one policy for the whole institution — will ameliorate the situation. I’m a university professor, and I know that policies are important. ... But the existence of an administrative policy is not what drives the culture of the campus. It doesn’t motivate behavior in dorms or fraternity basements. It doesn’t control behavior in labs. What’s needed is an overhaul of campus culture and leadership within academic disciplines to make sure that senior scholars don’t continue to turn a blind eye to the kinds of harassment that often take place in off-campus settings.

— Alumna from the Class of 1984
In addition, several alumni admissions interviewers also expressed conflicting feelings over how to advocate for Dartmouth to applicants in light of the lawsuit, while some alumni indicated they’d be reducing or withholding donations to Dartmouth in light of the allegations.

Reflecting on how to address campus culture going forward, some alumni wanted to see a new sexual misconduct policy that “avoided overbalance” in favor of the accuser, with one alum from the Class of 1964 writing, “In addition, there needs to be a risk associated with false reporting or reporting that is later determined to be false or grossly slanted.” As one alum from the Class of 1970 put it, “the emphasis of the policies and practices has seemed to presume the accused as guilty, thus placing the burden on them to prove their innocence and not allowing them means for effective self-defense. I am not a lawyer but I do believe in fairness.”

And while many said they were glad to see an overhaul of the sexual misconduct policy, at least one alum from the Class of 1984 said they believed that the College’s efforts need to extend beyond paper, writing: “…the College wants us to know that a unified sexual harassment policy — one policy for the whole institution — will ameliorate the situation. I’m a university professor, and I know that policies are important. It’s a good idea to streamline and unify procedures. But the existence of an administrative policy is not what drives the culture of the campus. It doesn’t motivate behavior in dorms or fraternity basements. It doesn’t control behavior in labs. What’s needed is an overhaul of campus culture and leadership within academic disciplines to make sure that senior scholars don’t continue to turn a blind eye to the kinds of harassment that often take place in off-campus settings.”

Please use your time in Hanover to make it clear to the administration that in going after the plaintiffs in this case, they are compounding the harm they have already done. They are re-traumatizing these women and throwing them under the bus AGAIN. Please urge the administration to protect the plaintiffs, and in doing so, to take the steps that C3I purports to support... Stripping anonymity from these plaintiffs is the definition of the abuse of power. These women are alums. They are our sisters. We must do what we can to protect them.

— Alumna from the Class of 2005

Due to the Dartmouth administration’s recent actions in the Rapuano lawsuit — specifically, the administration’s attempts to reveal the identifies of two Jane Doe victim’s of sexual harassment and sexual assault — we no longer feel we can in good faith support our alma mater. As an attorney myself, I am particularly pained that Dartmouth is seeking to force these women to choose between seeking justice and remaining anonymous.

— Alumnus from the Class of 2001
ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID

Of the emails received on the topics of admissions and financial aid this year, the largest concentration focused on tuition costs, the affordability of attending Dartmouth, and how this limits access to a Dartmouth education for many students. Some alumni wrote to express opinions and hopes that lower-income families will be able to afford Dartmouth moving forward and voiced concerns that wealthier applicants are favored in the process.

These communications varied widely in tone, but one alumnus, perhaps representative of a broader segment wrote, “I’d like to see Dartmouth show true leadership and innovative thinking in...the costs of higher education.” Several alums went further, suggesting that Admissions has a responsibility to cover costs for incoming student and local accepted student events, which has not been the case historically. Those costs have been covered by local alumni hosts.

In addition to the affordability concerns, alumni revealed mixed views on the efforts Dartmouth is making to diversify its student body in terms of socioeconomic background, race, and even academic interests. Other alumni wrote regarding legacy admissions, including seeking more information about current policies, the current percentage of students who are legacies, or whether alumni donations impact admissions decisions. Some wrote with specific questions about their own children. In contrast, two alumni wrote to the ALC advocating for an end to legacy consideration in admissions.

Some correspondents asked about a recent lawsuit filed against Harvard in federal court alleging bias against Asian-American backgrounds and whether Dartmouth had a specific response or any actions that they intended to take based on the outcome of that lawsuit. Several asked for the personal opinion of the vice provost for enrollment and dean of admissions on the matter, and if he planned to make any adjustments moving forward. One alum wrote, “The Harvard trial has put a spotlight on admissions policy. I think it would be wise for you to get a complete and detailed picture of our admission procedures, criteria and results; form judgments on their adequacy and their ability to be defended publicly; recommend changes if they are needed; and insure the College takes a proactive public information approach.”

Alumni also wrote passionately about the College’s elimination of the need-blind policy for international students (and advocated for the reversal of that policy) and made direct inquiries about how to respond to specific negative press about the College and encourage/convince high schoolers to apply despite the press. Alumni were interested in the impact of the class-action lawsuit and indirectly in recent admissions scandals not involving Dartmouth but affecting other prestigious universities.

I would like you to ask what is the college doing to lower tuition? High tuition is the number one obstacle to a truly diverse student body. Google says the all-in cost to attend Dartmouth is $71,000 per year. That destroys diversity. Many smart kids and their parents never even bother to consider Dartmouth because they know the price is too steep — even with financial aid.

— Alumnus from the Class of 1988

One issue that is very important to me is financial inclusion and increased access to the College. When I attended Camp Granite earlier this year it sounded like the Admissions Office and Student Affairs were working on this issue - including need-blind admissions for all students regardless of citizenship status. I hope this issue continues to be brought up by alumni.

— Alumna from the class of 2017
ACADEMICS

The majority of alumni sentiment related to academic affairs that was communicated to the Alumni Council centered on feedback or questions around diversity of political thought.

Among the topics raised were a perceived imbalance when it comes to faculty members’ political affiliation; the appropriateness of student protests and campus reactions to controversial speakers; the administration’s role in campus politics; how and whether the concept of free speech is taught and championed; the safety and comfort of students who identify as conservative; equal treatment of campus visitors across the political spectrum; and the events that unfolded around conservative writer David Horowitz’s visit in particular. A number of commenters appended links to news articles or blog posts about campus protests and speech issues at Dartmouth and other colleges nationwide, or compared Dartmouth to Middlebury, UC Berkeley, and University of Chicago, all of which have recently faced similar challenges in accommodating controversial speakers in ways the commenters deemed more or less desirable.

Several alumni also expressed support for the College’s emphasis on teaching all students to be leaders as a touchpoint of The Call to Lead campaign and voiced questions about precisely how the College is teaching leadership in furtherance of that stated goal. As in the past two years, several alumni raised questions or expressed concerns either about faculty and student diversity, or about what they considered an undue emphasis on diversity at the expense of other goals. And a few wanted to better understand the college’s position, if any, on the Boycott, Divestments, Sanctions (BDS) movement in the wake of Professor Bruce Duthu declining to serve as Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in 2017. (He had withdrawn himself from consideration after questions were raised about his support for a petition to the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association to support BDS). While some of the questions read as angry or disgruntled and reference alumni withholding donations, most were more positive in tone, either seeking clarification or proposing changes the alumni believe would improve the college and students’ experiences here.

Dartmouth is fooling itself with fantasies of a balanced liberal arts education. It isn’t balanced anymore for a large part of the student population that never get exposed to any positive conservative points of view to even consider.
— Alumnus from the class of 1964

I want to make sure that the ‘safe and inclusive’ environment is safe and inclusive for students and faculty of all political and religious persuasions. To what extent, for example, do conservative or Republican students feel free to express their views in class, committee meetings, informal gatherings, or in discussions with their roommates or dorm mates?
— Alumna from the Class of 1975
STUDENT LIFE

Alumni who highlighted student life issues in their correspondence to the Council said they were eager to hear updates from the College on two critical issues that were part of Moving Dartmouth Forward (MDF). They reference the MDF plan, kicked off in January 2015, and ask specifically for an update on 1) the House Communities initiative and 2) reductions in substance abuse/binge drinking, and 3) reductions in sexual misconduct among students.

Regarding the House Communities, many writers asked for a follow up on whether the plan’s intended impact has been felt, and there were prevalent requests for hard data reporting on this. Some feel that the concept is hypocritical and forces segregation.

Several alumni also asked about the active shooter situation in the fall of 2018 in the Town of Hanover, and whether our students are safe in Hanover. There was also curiosity around what the future holds for SAE and AD and other derecognized fraternities and organizations.

CAMPUS

The majority of email responses in this category centered on the College’s master plan, which was announced in April of 2019 with the objective of developing a strategic framework to drive decisions about future development of College land and facilities. A few comments were made regarding the need to retain the golf course. Others noted the poor state of some undergraduate housing and the need to make significant improvements quickly. Some shared their hopes that the College will become more sustainable.

However, by far the majority of comments in this category centered on the campus master plan and the amount of expansion contemplated that would impact Dartmouth’s sense of place. Among the Master Plan’s features are a framework for development and preservation within the main campus; local real estate; the Moosilauke Campus; and the Second College Grant. Among the sentiments expressed most passionately were those contending that the architectural design vision for the College is not inspired, holistic or sustainable enough to meet the standards of the Dartmouth experience.
**CAMPUS**

I was very pleased to see Dartmouth finally get moving on a real sustainability action plan, especially with plans to reduce GHG emissions. Despite this excellent plan, it seems that every week brings new news of the urgency of the climate crisis. There may not be time for the more measured pace people have embraced.... — Alumnus from the class of 1966

In the last few speeches I’ve heard from Laurel Richie, she’s talked a lot about the power of place. President Hanlon has also mentioned the power of place in his talks. They understand the life-long impact that the Green and other spaces has on them, and on many of us, emotionally. ...I hope that in her next phases of growth Dartmouth can realize excellence in building and landscape design to expand the quality of learning, environmental responsibility, emotional connection, and cultural contribution. — Alumna from the Class of 1984

**ADMINISTRATION**

The ALC received emails relating to both administrative operations and administrative policy. There were two specific cross-over issues between the two categories; “environmental” concerns and the increasing levels of costs — including “administrative bloat” and the rising costs of tuition.

Relating to administrative operations, the following themes stood out: dismay at increasing college costs; concern over administrative bloat; and support for ROTC. Additional correspondence received encompassed 1) support for the decision to relocate the Hovey murals, 2) anger at the lack of recognition of the Dartmouth Ski Club 3) a hope that the school will not mimic Harvard’s support for Colin Kaepernick’s decision to “take the knee” 4) sadness at the closing of the Dartmouth Bookstore 5) support for the College’s reduction of fossil fuel and 6) opinion that Dartmouth puts too much focus on graduate education at the expense of the education of undergraduate students.

Relating to administrative policy, there were three themes that stood out: a desire for the College to be a leader on environmental issues; the desire for forgiveness of student loans; and concern over increasing costs, specifically relating to tuition. These themes were also seen in correspondence around Admissions and Financial Aid and Dartmouth’s campus.

A singular area of concern that I share with many of my classmates...is what appears (to be) a substantially bloated and overpaid administrative structure. — Alumnus from the Class of 1968

I would very much appreciate an update on the college’s seemingly stalled plans for divesting the endowment of fossil fuel related investments. I hope that Dartmouth will one day become a leader in the fight against climate change, but for now I’d be happy if we just started catching up a bit. — Alumna from the Class of 2001
THE CALL TO LEAD

The ALC received multiple emails that addressed The Call to Lead campaign, which is seeking to raise $3 billion by 2022. Several voiced support for the campaign and its initiatives. Some raised concerns, including the impression that leadership/belonging is solely defined by giving to the campaign, the naming of specific bequest amounts, and hope for more engagement with young alumni. Finally, while one alumnus said he believed that his money would be better spent fighting poverty and other social issues, several others wrote to say they would like to learn more about how the funds raised will be deployed by the College with the hope that they keep Dartmouth accessible for all students.

I felt while at Dartmouth that all futures/pathways were valued, but as an alum it seems increasingly clear that if I don’t have millions to contribute to the Call to Lead, or even hundreds to attend expensive events in the area, then there’s not a place for me in the Dartmouth Club, or much interest in me as an alumna. That makes sense, on the one hand (of course alums are valuable for their money…) — but it’s my Dartmouth, too, and the emphasis on wealth and ‘success’ that I pick up on in alumni publications, communications, events, etc. is increasingly troublesome to me, especially given how poorly Dartmouth ranks among elite colleges accepting lower income students.

— Anonymous

GOVERNANCE

The ALC received a small number of emails addressing governance matters pertaining to both the Board of Trustees and the Alumni Council. A number of messages were received from a member of the Class of 1946 who said he was concerned that the post 55th reunion classes have only three representatives on the Alumni Council: “This ‘Greatest Generation’ should be allowed a leadership voice along all other classes if we are going to be consistent in including all Alumni Classes in our goal of diversity for all.” Additional emails call for the creation of Alumni Council seats for Women of Dartmouth, and a few expressed concerns about the alumni trustee election process.

ATHLETICS

Themes of communication received about athletics included dissatisfaction with access to online broadcasts of competitions being limited to those who pay for the service; inquiries about the steps being taken to reduce football injuries and mitigate the liability risk arising from sports injuries; and disappointment in the men’s basketball team’s record.
Appendices

The Alumni Council meets twice annually. In support of the Council mission to sustain a fully informed, representative, and engaged exchange of information and sentiment between alumni and their College, and to enhance and inspire alumni involvement that furthers the mission of the College, communicates to alumni after each meeting. The messages below were written by Alumni Council President Adrienne “Tee” Lotson ’82 and sent via email to all Dartmouth alumni.

MESSAGE TO ALL ALUMNI FROM ALUMNI COUNCIL PRESIDENT — FALL 2018

Earlier this month, the Dartmouth Alumni Council convened for a very productive 217th meeting in Hanover. As president of the Council, having an informed alumni body is paramount to my mission. Therefore, I wanted to take this opportunity to bring to the Dartmouth alumni family a summary of important discussions and takeaways.

A Celebration for the Ages

In 2019, Dartmouth will celebrate its 250th anniversary, which marks a unique opportunity to honor our past and look to the future. The year will feature opportunities to come together to celebrate what makes Dartmouth unique, feel proud of our amazing community, and be inspired to be part of Dartmouth’s future. I hope you’ll take a moment to watch the 250th video. Different communities will be celebrating in their own ways, and there will be celebrations, educational opportunities, arts exhibitions, and service opportunities. There’s something in the plans for everyone, and I encourage you to consider about how you would like to join in on the celebration.

It All Matters

The Council has enjoyed a front row seat over recent years, representing alumni and advising in the strategic vision that is being realized by The Call to Lead: The Campaign For Dartmouth. I hope that you have had a chance to understand the dual power of this plan: it both doubles down on the distinctive qualities of Dartmouth that we adore and outlines an ambitious legacy for the next generation of Dartmouth students. At the meeting this month, we learned from Councilors who are regional volunteers for the campaign that the community’s response has been strong since the campaign was announced in April, more than $1.8 billion has been raised for people, programs and buildings. I was particularly struck by what a collective effort this and how much participation matters...and more than 20,000 of those gifts are in amounts of $1- $250! The Call to Lead vision embraces three goals: to advance Dartmouth’s distinctive educational model and be the preeminent US undergraduate college; to make discoveries that improve the human condition; and to prepare students for lives of wise leadership. As Council president, my belief is that this is a legacy for us all to create, to “pay it forward”, and to champion it as inclusive and inviting to ALL Dartmouth alumni. For the 52,000 of you that have already come forward on behalf of the campaign, your support is inspiring to the Alumni Council -- we thank you! To learn more about the vision for Dartmouth and meet current students, faculty and campus leaders, I encourage you to attend one of the upcoming The Call to Lead celebrations coming soon to a city near you, And I offer you this invitation: enlist a friend or two, attend one of the celebrations, learn more about our bold vision for Dartmouth’s future, then email me or your Alumni Councilor and tell us what you found inspiring. We’d love to hear from you.

And who knows, you may even see me on the road!

Recognizing Dartmouth Leaders

The Council accomplished two important items of business during the meeting. We nominated two outstanding candidates for the Dartmouth Board of Trustees. They are Hilary C. Tompkins ’90 and Daniel L. Black ’82 P’21. More information about the candidates and the nomination process is available at voxthevote.com. And we honored five alumni for their extraordinary service to Dartmouth. Harris B. McKee ’61 Th’63, Edward S. Heald ’68, and Lynne Hamel Gaudet ’81 received the Dartmouth Alumni Award, and Melanie Pastuck ’11 and John E. Valdez ’07 received the Young Alumni Distinguished Service Award. Give a rouse!
**Addressing Sexual Misconduct**

For many of you, there are questions regarding the lawsuit filed by seven former and current students who allege that Dartmouth did not adequately respond to their complaints of sexual misconduct in cases involving three former faculty members in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences. The lawsuit was announced the day we arrived in Hanover, and we had the opportunity to discuss it as a Council with senior leadership of the College.

I was reassured to hear that the College applauds the courage displayed by the seven women for coming forward over a year ago. As a result of their bravery, an investigation was launched that led to the departure of each of the three faculty members in the summer of 2018. I was equally pleased to learn that Dartmouth has been and remains open to a fair resolution of the women’s claims through mediation. Please feel free to send your comments and questions about the lawsuit, which we will in turn share with the President and Board of Trustees.

We also learned of the ongoing effort by the College to increase safety on campus for all. Title IX Coordinator Kristin Clemens shared how her office promotes sexual respect, safety, and well-being and provides resources to the campus community. In addition, the Presidential Steering Committee, launched in January 2018, recently presented a report to President Hanlon resulting in the development of a draft unified policy on sexual misconduct. The deans of Arts & Science and the four graduate and professional schools are in the process of soliciting feedback on the policy before final implementation.

As Council president, I assure you that the Alumni Council shares with Dartmouth’s leadership the goal of maintaining a safe and inclusive campus for all members of our community.

**Basecamp to the World**

Finally, the meeting explored the many ways that Dartmouth serves as a hub of intellectual and personal growth as well as a launchpad for worldwide study. I was personally inspired to hear two examples of how global perspective and experiential learning feature prominently in the Dartmouth experience. We explored the King Scholars program, which seeks low-income students from developing nations interested in alleviating poverty in their home countries, as well as the impact of international internships offered through the John Sloan Dickey Center. Dartmouth encourages its students to explore beyond the boundaries of our campus, our states, and our nation. I encourage each of us to do the same.

Thank you for reading. If you’d like more information about the Council, I encourage you to visit our website and read the minutes of the recent meeting. You can always reach me with your thoughts and sentiments at this email address. Please continue to stay involved and thank you for all you do for Dartmouth. We are ONE DARTMOUTH, and we are greater together.

For our Dartmouth,

Adrienne “Tee” Lotson ’82

President, Dartmouth Alumni Council

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**MESSAGE TO ALL ALUMNI FROM ALUMNI COUNCIL PRESIDENT — SPRING 2019**

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as your Alumni Council President over the past year, never more so than during the recent 218th meeting of the Council. During the meeting, your Council representatives engaged with each other and Dartmouth leadership, representing your views and feedback on issues important to our community. It is clear to me that I am leaving the Council in good hands.

The agenda for the 218th meeting was packed. Councilors rolled up their sleeves and dug deeply into the work of the weekend. Some highlights:

- Councilors supported The Call to Serve through the 5th Annual Day of Service on May 4 and a service project held during our meeting where we wrote letters of encouragement to senior citizens and veterans. Kudos to Rachel Bogardus Drew ’98, chair of the Alumni Service Committee, for organizing both events. As you may know The Call to Serve challenges our community to contribute 250,000 hours of service in honor of Dartmouth’s 250 years and seeks to call attention to the amazing work Dartmouth alumni, faculty, students, and staff do in the world. This initiative has recently crossed the 100,000-hour mark, and we need your help to get to 250,000: If you serve on a nonprofit board, coach a youth sports team, volunteer at your place of worship, or make other contributions, please visit dartgo.org/calltoserve to log your hours. And please save the date for next year’s Alumni Day of Service on May 2, 2020. Thank you for your part in making the world a better place!
Dartmouth is developing a strategic master plan that will chart a course for the next twenty years and beyond. Councilors participated in a walking tour of some of the coming and completed construction initiatives on campus and had the opportunity to offer our input on Dartmouth’s master plan. This plan seeks to preserve what is unique about the Dartmouth campus while providing a framework for sustainable development and preservation.

We engaged with Provost Joe Helble and C3I Director Theodosia Cook in a discussion of Dartmouth’s Campus Climate and Culture Initiative (C3I). We learned how the initiative functions in concert with Moving Dartmouth Forward and Inclusive Excellence and how it takes important steps to address sexual misconduct; foster healthy relationships; and make the campus a safer, more inclusive community for all members. Did you know that Dartmouth has joined more than 40 other colleges and universities and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to create the Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education? The collaborative has researched and recommended evidence-based policies and practices for addressing and preventing all forms of sexual harassment. I am proud that Dartmouth has implemented all of their recommendations, including interventions such as mandatory Title IX training, climate reviews, unified sexual misconduct policies, expanded mental health resources, and an external advisory committee.

Oh, the Place We Have Gone!!! Our own international representative on the Council, Nestor Paz-Galindo ’93 and Senior Vice President for Advancement Bob Lasher ’88 presented an informative session, bringing us all up to speed on our expanding global presence. This year we will have the chance to celebrate the 250th with international alumni in cities around the world. We’ll be bringing Dartmouth to London, Hong Kong, Lima, and Toronto, where alumni, families, and friends will have opportunities to experience interactive sessions with faculty and students, engage in lively debates and open conversations about the most pressing issues of our time—from climate change to international security—and connect with peers as we explore Dartmouth’s critical role in our global future. I was able to see our international engagement firsthand during my tenure as Council president as I made my way to Helsinki, Finland, for an event featuring multi-generations of Dartmouth alums.

As noted above, in plenaries and committee meetings, your councilors spent much of their time sharing your views on key matters, including admission, student and campus life, and the ongoing lawsuit. With regard to the lawsuit, you may have read that on Tuesday, May 28, Dartmouth reported that a mediator has been identified and all parties will soon engage in mediated talks. Please be assured that the College and Council will keep you updated as this matter proceeds.

Finally, we did pause for a moment to celebrate important milestones, including our 250th anniversary and the $2 billion raised through The Call to Lead campaign. We also took time to acknowledge accomplishments for which we should be proud, including the thousands of hours of service our community has contributed through The Call to Serve, the competitiveness and diversity of the newly enrolled class of 2023, the progress we are making to be greener and more sustainable, and the excellence and impact of our faculty.

Thank you for your continued engagement with the College and Council through your volunteer work, ideas, questions, and feedback. We are here to hear you and to share your sentiments with Dartmouth’s leadership. Be in touch anytime. If you’d like a more thorough summary of the Council meeting, please read the minutes and view photos, or reach out to your Council representatives.

As I traveled the globe as your representative, I have to tell you that indeed Dartmouth has the best alumni body in the world. Thank you for the laughs, hard conversations, thought-provoking engagement, and trust that we are a community made better when there is a place for all of us at the table. It has been a true joy to serve as your president. I welcome my successor, Alec Casey ’88, who will begin his tenure on July 1, 2019.

Yours for One Dartmouth,
Adrienne “Tee” Lotson ’82
President, Dartmouth Alumni Council