

18 November 2016

Dear GCWS communities,

We, the representatives of the Board of Directors of the Consortium for Graduate Studies in Gender, Culture, Women, and Sexuality (GCWS) at MIT, are committed to the practices of academic freedom and social justice. We stand in solidarity with our faculty, staff, and student communities across our member institutions and with all people whose dignity and rights have been increasingly threatened by forces that seek to destroy the values of equity, justice, and freedom. In alignment with our mission, we continue our active, collective academic labor of countering all the forms of hate that are flourishing in the present political, social context.

We are committed in all our endeavors to providing welcome and safety to all members of our community who are targeted by practices of hate and bigotry. In keeping, we pledge to continue to denounce all forms of discrimination: religious, racial, gender, sexual, age, class, ability, nationality, documentation, citizenship, and others. We ask our member institutions to join us in highlighting these commitments.

As a collective, we draw on our shared expertise, wisdom, and vision to educate, learn, and struggle toward a more just and equitable future for all people.

In solidarity,

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*GCWS Board Co-Chair*

*Associate Professor and Chair of Education, and Director of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Tufts University*

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*GCWS Board Co-Chair*

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