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MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY RELEASES NEW SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY

SACKVILLE, NB — On May 31, 2016, the Mount Allison Board of Regents passed a new sexual assault policy titled "Sexual Violence Prevention and Response".

The Mount Allison Students' Union played a large role in encouraging student participation in the consultation process in order to provide a policy that is up-to-date and effective. Together, the Student Life Office and the MASU will roll out the policy with students, residence life, and the community.

The Student Life Office is pleased to announce this policy after facilitating much consultation and discussion. Kim Meade (Vice-President, International and Student Affairs) states, "We are looking forward to working with MASU to roll out the new sexual violence policy and procedures. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the development of the policy and procedures, in particular Melody Petlock, our Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Education Advisor."

Melody Petlock stands in as the administrator for the new policy: "Creating this policy was a collaborative effort with voices from faculty, staff and students. I am so pleased we have been able to integrate everything we know about the trauma caused by sexual violence into our formal policies, procedures and practices. The new policy will work to ensure fairness to all parties to a complaint while at the same time meeting the survivor's need to be respected, informed, connected and hopeful regarding their recovery. Moving forward, the policy launch and education will focus on making the policy as transparent as possible to encourage members of our community to come forward with a report.".

The Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Policy can be found here: http://www.mta.ca/Community/Governance_and_admin/Policies_and_procedures/Section_1000/Policy_1006/Policy_1006/.

The MASU is delighted to have been able to provide assistance in updating the new policy regarding sexual violence prevention and response. The Mount Allison Students' Union represents all full-time and part-time undergraduate and graduate students at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick.

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