

**Dartmouth Asian Pacific American Alumni Association (DAPAAA)**  
**Executive Board Statement**  
**on the Freedom Budget & Campus Change**

The Executive Board of the Dartmouth Asian Pacific American Alumni Association (DAPAAA) commends President Hanlon's adamance that Dartmouth be a place that actively combats oppression and hurtful acts, as conveyed by his April 17 "Call to Action" and announcement of the Presidential Steering Committee for Moving Dartmouth Forward. As many already know, President Hanlon's actions were motivated in part by the release of a student-authored document titled the "Freedom Budget" and a subsequent student sit-in. While the Board does not necessarily endorse every point in the Freedom Budget, we nonetheless support the ethos of the document and admire the student-protesters' passion for social justice.

The Freedom Budget protest and other recent events on campus have created important learning opportunities for both students and the administration, and we hope that these events will be catalysts for positive change rather than further division within the Dartmouth community. Moving forward, DAPAAA urges President Hanlon and the administration to critically examine student concerns, determine what can be prioritized, and maintain open lines of communication. We encourage the Dartmouth community as a whole to remain open to dialogue and to recall that being a part of a community requires that we engage rather than dismiss; listen rather than merely wait until our turn to talk; and strive to understand rather than assume.

While DAPAAA acknowledges the importance of inclusivity when discussing systemic change, we highlight several issues here that are particularly salient for the Pan Asian community:

1. Prioritize hiring for the Assistant Dean/Advisor to Pan Asian Students position by providing resources for a national search.
2. Institute programs targeting minority faculty and staff retention.
3. Hire additional Asian-American studies faculty and expand coursework options, including interdisciplinary options.
4. Establish Hindi and Korean language classes.
5. Expand student life and health resources for Pan Asian students, for example, by ensuring the availability of culturally sensitive mental health counselors.

Finally, with the upcoming departure of the current Advisor to Pan Asian Students, DAPAAA offers its full support to Pan Asian students and the wider College community in hopes that we can continue to work together to create a Dartmouth that students can truly call "home."

*DAPAAA Executive Board 2013–2014*  
May 24, 2014

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