



Olin College of Engineering's Commitment Statement in support of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education

September 12, 2023

Olin College's Commitment to the Action Collaborative

As one of the founding members of the [Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education](#), Olin College is committed to advancing efforts to prevent and effectively respond to sexual harassment in higher education.

At Olin, we are a dedicated community of staff, faculty, and students who strive to create an environment where inclusion, equity, and social values are at the forefront of our mission. Olin is committed to maintaining a welcoming environment of well-being, learning, and accountability for all members of our campus community by preventing the occurrence of sexual harassment and addressing its effects. Membership in and support of the Action Collaborative's efforts to prevent and address sexual harassment in higher education are particularly aligned with these goals and our foundational commitment to gender equity.

Information about the National Academies and the Action Collaborative

The Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education is an initiative launched by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. Its work is guided by the 2018 National Academies consensus study report, [Sexual Harassment of Women: Climate, Culture, and Consequences in Academic Science, Engineering, and Medicine](#). Olin College President Dr. Gilda Barabino was a member of the committee that produced this report.

Two key points about the Action Collaborative resonate:

The Action Collaborative brings together leaders from academic institutions and key stakeholders to collaboratively work toward and share targeted action on addressing and preventing sexual harassment across all disciplines and among all people in higher education.

The Action Collaborative creates an active space where colleges, universities, and other research and training institutions move beyond basic legal compliance to evidence-based policies and practices at the individual and systems levels for addressing and preventing all forms of sexual harassment and promoting a culture of respect in higher education.

Olin's Mission/Goals related to the Action Collaborative

In the past few years, Olin has implemented policies designed to address not only sexual harassment, but also other interpersonal misconduct that may not fall under Title IX regulation.

We have also revised our relevant policies to make them more accessible to a broad set of stakeholders; increased our efforts to raise awareness about sexual and interpersonal harassment through campus-wide trainings; implemented prevention and supportive measures by providing consent, healthy relationships and bystander intervention trainings to employees and students; and created additional resources to help members of the community better understand the supportive measures available to them.

We continue to work diligently with student groups, including peer advocates and resident assistants, as part of our network of resources available to support students.

In the next few years, Olin will continue to maintain a learning and working environment that is free of sexual harassment. We will continue to focus on providing interactive and comprehensive training to students and employees, creating community awareness around sexual and interpersonal misconduct, and applying accountability measures as appropriate.

Sharing about Olin and Its Goals

Olin's goal is to support the work of the Action Collaborative by sharing our practices and resources through the Collaborative's online repository of descriptions of work and through at least one of the Action Collaborative's four working groups. Thus far, Olin's representatives have joined and contributed to the Action Collaborative Prevention Working Group.

Olin is ranked #2 ([by U.S. News & World Report](#)) in the nation among undergraduate engineering programs. From our founding, collaboration with other institutions and external partners has been key to our success. By participating in the Action Collaborative, Olin college seeks to share its current practices to address and prevent all forms of sexual harassment in higher education.

Olin College hereby commits to support the goals of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine *Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education*.



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President
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