Timeline of Department of Government actions in aftermath of Domínguez sexual harassment revelations

Entries in brackets are by University authorities or others, not the Department

[1983-1984. Dean of FAS Henry Rosovsky finds that Professor Jorge Dominguez sexually harassed Professor Terry Karl and imposes sanctions on Dominguez.]

[February 27 and March 4, 2018 – *The Chronicle of Higher Education* publishes articles with allegations that Dominguez had sexually harassed over a dozen women over the prior decades.]

[March 4, 2018 – FAS Dean Michael Smith places Dominguez on leave effective immediately pending a “full and fair review of the facts.”]

[March 5, 2018 – An FAS Title IX coordinator files a complaint against Dominguez with the Office for Dispute Resolution.]

[March 6, 2018 – Dominguez announces his resignation, which he characterizes as retirement.]

March 20, 2018 – Government Department Chair Professor Jennifer Hochschild holds departmental Town Hall meeting on the Domínguez revelations.

March 2018 – Chair Hochschild launches a “Climate Change Committee” charged with working to create a safer and more inclusive environment in the Department. Professor Steven Levitsky chairs the committee, composed of six ladder faculty, one non-ladder faculty, two staff, three graduate students, and three undergraduates. Seven subcommittees are established to address different aspects of the Department’s culture. Scores of other faculty, staff, and students participate in the work of the Committee and its sub-committees.

October 2018 – The Government Department’s full faculty votes to call on the University to establish an external review committee. A group of 124 graduate students sends a similar letter to the University administration.
October 2018 – Department Climate survey fielded by Inclusive Climate Subcommittee of the Climate Change Committee

March 2018-April 2019 – Climate Change Committee (with its seven sub-committees) meets.

February 2019 – Final report on Climate survey released.

April 30, 2019 – Climate Change Committee submits its final report and recommendations. These include a call for an external review committee.

May 1, 2019 – Climate Change Committee writes to University administration calling again for an external review committee “to evaluate how departmental, FAS, and university-wide procedures, practices, and norms may have contributed to our collective failure to provide a safe and productive work environment for all members of our community.”

[May 9, 2019 – FAS Dean Claudine Gay announces the conclusion of the investigation by the Office for Dispute Resolution in an email to the FAS community, writing that Dominguez had “engaged in unwelcome sexual conduct toward several individuals, on multiple occasions over a period spanning nearly four decades.” Her message also describes the sanctions the University imposes on Dominguez, which include a revocation of his emeritus status.]

[May 9, 2019 – President Bacow confirms that the University would initiate a review by a three-member external committee.]

May 14, 2019 – Department of Government full faculty meets to accept the report of the Climate Change Committee. The faculty accepts all the Committee’s recommendations.

Fall 2019 – The Department of Government establishes the position of Title IX Liaison, to be held initially by Professor Iain Johnston.

[February 2020 – Professor Terry Karl; Suzanna Challen, a former graduate student; and Professor Nienke Grossman and Charna Sherman, former undergraduates, speak on campus at public meeting about their experience with sexual harassment by Jorge Dominguez.]
February 2020 – Current Department of Government Chair Jeffry Frieden writes to Department community: “I for one am deeply sorry that so many women were subjected to sexually inappropriate and degrading behavior by one of our colleagues, and that the Department was unable to provide them with the safe and secure environment necessary for a productive academic experience.”

April 2020 – Task force (a recommendation of the Climate Change Committee) proposes creation of an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Standing Committee to ensure institutional evaluation and monitoring of departmental efforts.

Summer-Fall 2020 – Department of Government establishes Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Standing Committee made up of faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduates.

September 2020 – Department of Government appoints two graduate students as Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Fellows

Fall 2020 – Department of Government announces two grants for dissertation research on women in politics and race, ethnicity, and/or migration and politics; and two new awards for completed dissertations on women in politics and race, ethnicity, and/or migration and politics.