March 8th, 2019

**STATEMENT ON 2019 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY**

International Women’s Day is a global day to celebrate women past, present, and future. Today and every day, APUS commits to continuing the work to achieve justice, to form solidarity across communities, and build a better future for all women.

The theme of International Women’s Day 2019 is #BalanceforBetter.

We encourage everyone to celebrate and uplift the women who are currently at the front lines, leading social, political and cultural movements that will change not only their communities, but the world. They have already identified the key to finding balance and that is by changing all systems in place that render women as “less than”.

This means that we must work towards ending racism, xenophobia, queerphobia, transphobia, ableism and all other forms of oppression that justifies the abuse and exploitation of women.

We must protect and defend Indigenous, Black and racialized women, Muslim women, Disabled Women, Transgender Women, and Low Income Women. We must work to end rape culture on our campuses and communities. We must make access to quality education and meaningful work available to any woman who desires it. We must ensure that social services, including housing, healthcare, reproductive care, and childcare are adequately funded and supported so that women can be full participants in society.

This is key to women’s liberation.

In Solidarity,

The APUS Executive Committee

If you are in Toronto, join us at the 2019 Toronto IWD Rally: We are Fearless!
Rally - 11:00 am in the OISE Auditorium (252 Bloor St. W)
March - 1:00 pm begins just outside OISE*
Fair - 2:00 pm at Ryerson (55 Gould St)

More IWD events can be found [here](#).