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## BU dean calls website that rates college women 'boorish and unoriginal'

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By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

A website that rates the attractiveness of Boston University women students came under increased criticism from the school's dean of students today, while the site's creator promised changes that "will satisfy the critics."

In a blog post today, Dean of Students Kenneth Elmore called the site "boorish and unoriginal."

"This troubles me – it fractures the trust that people need in a community," he wrote.

"Some think this site is an example of talented work," he added later. "For me, this is a reminder that as a creator, I must always ask, 'What do you want your great piece of work to stand for?' 'Can you stand behind your work?' Do you want to stand behind your work?'"

Meanwhile, BU sophomore Justin Doody, the site's creator, said he was planning to add a rating system of male students to his site, RateBU.com. And, a new message recently was added to the homepage: "Just updating everyone that something big is coming soon! It will calm the critics and improve the site. Stay tuned."

Doody declined to elaborate in a brief phone conversation, saying that he wanted to keep the upcoming changes he is working on with another person private until it launches, which he expects to be in the next couple of days.

Since launching Friday, the site has sparked outcry from some on the BU campus, including a public condemnation from the school's student union. Critics call the site "demeaning" and have raised privacy concerns.

When users go to a voting page on rateBU.com, they are prompted to click one of two photos that appear side by side, seemingly at random, to indicate which of the two BU females is "hotter." Results of that voting process apparently determine a top 25 ranking list.

RateBU had previously suggested users upload pictures from Facebook for rating, but it appears to have dropped that explicit suggestion. The site's homepage said Thursday afternoon that 1,764,262 votes have been cast on 841 photos of BU women.

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