

Council on Sexual Violence Prevention
Wednesday, December 2, 2015
4:00pm-5:30pm

Ryan Lombardi, Vice President for Student and Campus Life and Mary Opperman, Vice President for Human Resources and Safety Services, welcomed everyone to the council meeting. Vice President Opperman gave a brief update on the search process for a Title IX Coordinator. Until the position is filled, she is acting as the interim chief Title IX Coordinator. Opperman is working closely with University Counsel's office to understand all of the requirements for this position as well as the requirements under the NYS Education Law – 129B.

Council committee updates were provided by Laura Weiss and Marne Einarson:

- Laura Weiss: Educational Strategies Committee
 - The poster campaign started this past year highlighting the victim advocate team is finished and in a phased rollout to campus partners. Some key departments have already received copies.
 - She also reported that NY State law (129-B) now mandates education for student leaders. The committee is working on how to implement this mandate, including such things as making it a part of the student organization registration process, how to capture who needs to be trained, how to record who has been trained, and how to reach a larger audience. In-person training will be delivered in the spring 2016 semester with online training to be developed to reach all the new student leaders the following fall 2016.
 - The committee is working on how to track training and programming provided to campus along with identifying gaps to address in future training programs. As much as possible, training/education will be submitted to Compliance Assist to use the data bank as a means toward tracking trends in sexual violence education on campus.

- Marne Einarson: Research and Evaluation Committee
 - Reported that her committee is really busy analyzing the data from the AAU sexual assault survey. They have been making presentations to different groups on campus – almost 15 to date (e.g., college advisors and faculty senate)
 - Next steps include deciding how best to respond to specific requests for data from students; how to best analyze and use data for future programs, future needs, and priorities; and how to best disseminate the data to the University community. The plan over the spring semester is to create a series of smaller reports (e.g. victimization, their experiences, perpetrators and relationships to CU and victim, alcohol etc.). They will be connecting with peer institutions (e.g. Ivy+) to compare and share ideas and suggestions of what to do.
 - Finally, they are looking at data from students that have experienced victimization and why they didn't report the incident to any of the resources.

Presentation: Proposed revisions to Policy 6.4 adjudication procedures

John Silicano, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs and Interim Senior Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Carol Grumbach, Director, Academically Engaged Learning and Special Assistant to the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs reviewed the processes underway to reexamine, update, and move forward revisions to Policy 6.4. The presentation outlined the lengthy review process

leading up to a draft policy and contained steps for review and approval for establishing more robust adjudication procedures that will be compliant with State and Federal laws. After the presentation there was a question and comment period about the policy revision:

1. Regarding communication between respondent and complainant, are there rules such as you are not allowed to contact each other? Are there ramifications if they do?

Answer: Yes, there would be ramifications because it would be a violation of the process such as if a no contact orders was issued (e.g., retaliation, violation of order etc.). The working group is still working on the formal processes and procedures.

2. Will there be witness anonymity? People will be reluctant to talk and don't want their name attached.

Answer: There are two issues; during the investigation and then in the hearing, the person may not be called to be a witness. It was agreed that this definitely needs to be vetted further and how witness anonymity is handled will need to be addressed.

3. What training will the hearing board and the designated Chair have?

Answer: Investigators could need assistance to understand the case and incident. There needs to be an avenue to educate the adjudicators to learn about these cases; and how to hardwire expertise – need to create a document for training for these investigators. Again, another item that still needs to be developed before rolling out the revised policy.

4. Any info or guidance for screening for students involved in a case and the potential faculty/staff on the panel that might have a relationship with the student?

Answer: This is an item we have on the list and process hasn't been decided yet.

5. Comment: Considerations need include how to collect data from the processes? Examples would be how many cases being filed; go to alternative options vs. to hearing system; year to year comparisons; how many sanctions given, etc. It will be important to track all the actions and results. Additionally, thought needs to be given to how to disclose the data.

6. What is the timeline for rolling out the new Policy and procedures out?

Answer: First, we need to have the Title IX Coordinator in place. The bones of the policy 6.4 will be done in draft and sent through a review process within the next couple of months. Then it will all need to put in place along with the guidance and training, staff, chairs, hearing board. When it will all be in place is not yet clear—probably not before next fall 2016.

7. Comment: Training issues and coming up with documents for use by the hearing board all need to be worked out. There is an education committee already in place with CSVP. They could take on some of this responsibility. Additionally, Cornell is going through the same types of processes as other higher education institutions—we should reach out to our colleagues.