





2015 Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct Climate, American Association of Universities Sexual Assault Survey, and Key Findings

Lori Berquam, MS, PhD Vice Provost for Student Life and Dean of Students

Sarah Van Orman, MD, MMM Executive Director – University Health Services

Bret Payseur



Background

- Gender-based violence includes: sexual assault, stalking, intimate partner violence, and sexual harassment
- Recent federal actions:
 - Violence Against Women Act amendments to the Clery Act (2013 reauthorization)
 - April 2011 "Dear Colleague Letter" regarding Title IX
 - April 2014 Title IX "Questions and Answers"
 - April 2014 White House "Not Alone" report



Survey Overview

The Association of American Universities (AAU) developed a webbased survey to assess sexual assault and sexual misconduct

- 26/62 AAU Schools participated
- Spring, 2015
- Goals:
 - 1. Ascertain frequencies of gender-based violence and sexual misconduct
 - 2. Assess perceptions of campus climate
 - Appraise student knowledge and evaluation of university response and resources for addressing sexual assault and misconduct



Participation





UW-Madison's response rate exceeded national average and that of other public institutions



Since entering college, 27.6% of female undergraduates have experienced a sexual assault involving force or incapacitation





Key Finding 1 (additional information)

Sexual assault incidents occurred in places of residence: a privateoff campus residence, an on-campus residence hall, or a sorority fraternity



Location of sexual assault



Alcohol is a common factor in sexual assault





Perpetrator consumed alcohol during assault



Other participating institutions



Sexual assault and sexual misconduct were disproportionately reported by female* students, LGBTQ+ students, students who identify as American Indian or Alaska Native and students with disabilities





Sexual harassment—including by co-workers and university faculty and other employees—is reported by common numbers of both undergraduate and graduate students





Key Finding 4 (additional information)

Perpetrator association with university

Percent of female u.g.s that reported harassment from*:



- Other student (95.3%)
- Faculty member (4.1%)
- Staff/Administrator (2.6%)

Percent of female grad./prof. students that reported harassment from*:



- Other student (84.1%)
- Faculty member (22.2%)
- Other staff or administrator (10.7%)
- Person affiliated with a UW program (3.3%) Person affiliated with a UW prog. (4.8%)

*Note percentages do not add to 100% because survivors could have reported multiple incidents

4/12/2016



Sexual assault and sexual misconduct often goes unreported

Students reporting incidents to at least one on- or off-campus resource





Undergraduates report greater knowledge about sexual assault and awareness of campus resources than graduate and professional students

Reported "very" or "extremely" knowledgeable about definitions of sexual assault and sexual misconduct

Reported "very" or "extremely" knowledgeable of where to get help from university





Peers are the primary resource for students who experience sexual assault and misconduct, yet seldom report intervening as bystanders







Students report mixed attitudes about campus climate, resources and response; there are opportunities to improve, especially among graduate and professional students



All students Female prof./grad.



Recommendations to Address Survey Findings

- Strengthen targeted prevention efforts for incoming students in Housing; bystander action and peer support important
- 2. Continue efforts to reduce high-risk alcohol consumption through education and enforcement
- 3. Address disproportionate amount of sexual assaults in offcampus Greek housing
- Reduce gap in knowledge among graduate students about sexual assault and misconduct by instituting a required training program
- 5. Appoint taskforce to address graduate and professional student reports of harassment and stalking by faculty and university employees



Recommendations to Address Key Survey Findings (cont.)

- 6. Address mixed student experience with campus resources
- 7. Address students' limited knowledge of campus resources
- Improve support for groups (e.g., American Indian students, students with disabilities, and those who identify as LGBTQ+) who are disproportionately affected by sexual assault and misconduct
- 9. Create opportunity to engage campus community in capacity building for addressing sexual violence
- 10. Addressing potential perpetrators must remain a priority
- 11. Appoint a Provost's Advisory Group on Sexual Violence to provide overarching analysis and leadership in this area on campus
- 12. Conduct periodic climate surveys to gauge progress