



University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ongoing Efforts to Address Gender-Based Violence at UW-Madison

Since the mid-1990s, UW-Madison has committed resources, personnel, programs, and policies specific to addressing campus gender-based violence experienced by students. During the past five years, UW-Madison increased its institutional commitment to preventing violence by implementing evidence-based prevention efforts, increasing support for victims, increasing staff capacity to respond to and investigate student reports, and implementing policies for those investigations pursuant to UWS Chapter 17. The data from the AAU Sexual Assault and Misconduct Climate Survey will be used to refine and enhance these efforts.

PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

1. First-year students—In addition to the information about sexual assault provided to parents and students during orientation, UW-Madison mandates completion of the *Tonight* program. *Tonight* is a “first-dose” primary prevention program about sexual assault, consent, dating violence, and stalking required for all new undergraduate students. UW-Madison has offered a first-year violence prevention program since fall 2009, and required completion of the *Tonight* program since 2013. *Tonight* was developed with extensive student input, is assessed for value and effectiveness, dispels myths about sexual violence, and sets forth expectations for new students. Approximately 22,000 students will have completed *Tonight* by the end of September 2015. uhs.wisc.edu/tonight
2. Graduate and professional students—New for the 2015-2016 school year, an online prevention program was developed to provide incoming graduate students, professional students, and new employees with information about campus policies, victim services, supporting survivors, and bystander intervention. uhs.wisc.edu/assault/grademployee/
3. Support for student activities—Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment (PAVE), is UW-Madison’s largest student organization focused on sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking. PAVE provides workshops, referrals to campus resources, educational events, and peer education services to the UW-Madison campus. pave-uw.tumblr.com
4. Ongoing awareness activities—Many campus offices provide and coordinate training, workshops, and media campaigns to increase campus awareness of sexual violence, services, and options available to survivors, and to promote bystander intervention. UWPD distributed posters with “Don’t Be That Guy” and “Tell Us” messages directed at men and victims, respectively. UW-Madison is an official partner of the national “It’s On Us” campaign.
5. High-risk drinking prevention efforts—Though alcohol does not cause sexual violence, UW-Madison recognizes the connection between the two issues and has many high-risk drinking prevention and student accountability efforts in place.
6. Engaging men—Greek Men for Violence Prevention (GMVP) is a two-credit course offered in the School of Social Work for fraternity men to become allies in ending violence against women. The Men’s Project is a new initiative that fosters healthier expressions of masculinity among UW-Madison students. uhs.wisc.edu/assault/gmvp.shtml
msc.wisc.edu/unpacking-masculinity-with-the-mens-project

VICTIM SUPPORT OPTIONS

1. Partnership with community victim service agencies — Since 1998, UW-Madison has provided in-kind, on-campus office space to the Rape Crisis Center (RCC) so that students can more easily access their services. The RCC—an invaluable campus partner—receives support from UW-Madison to operate its 24-hour crisis line. UW-Madison partners with Domestic Abuse Intervention Services and the Meriter Hospital Sexual Assault Nurse



Examiner program in training, coordination, and victim services. UW-Madison student victims are encouraged to work with the agencies that best meet their needs, either on- or off-campus.

uhs.wisc.edu/assault/sa-resources.shtml

2. Campus-based victim advocacy—In 2014, UW-Madison created a new position to provide campus-based confidential victim advocacy to students who experience sexual harassment, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and/or stalking.

uhs.wisc.edu/evoc/victimadvocacy.shtml

POLICIES: A BRIEF REVIEW

1. Responsible Action Guidelines—A policy that offers a friend or bystander the assurance that when a call is made for emergency care on behalf of an impaired individual, the caller (UW-Madison student) will not be subject to university disciplinary actions or citation by UW-Madison Police for his or her personal consumption of alcohol (e.g., underage drinking).
students.wisc.edu/alcoholinfo/resp_action_guide.html
2. Crime warnings—As required by the federal Clery Act, crime warnings are issued when the institution is notified of a sexual assault. Seven were issued in 2013, 12 were issued in 2014, and seven have been issued to date in 2015.
3. Annual Security and Fire Safety Report—In compliance with the Clery Act, an annual publication makes available a comprehensive list of crime data, campus policies, and resources pertaining to sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking. safeu.wisc.edu
4. Updates to the student code of conduct—In an effort to align better with federal guidelines, UW-Madison implemented supplemental procedures to be followed in accordance with UWS 17.03 to amend the state administrative code on student conduct for UW schools.

Before submission, these procedures were reviewed by many campus offices and student organizations.

students.wisc.edu/doso/reporting-allegations-of-sexual-assault-datingdomestic-violence-and-stalking/

NON-CRIMINAL SEXUAL ASSAULT INVESTIGATIONS

1. A full-time, designated Title IX Coordinator was recently hired. Title IX deputy appointments were identified in University Housing, the Dean of Students Office, the Office of Equity and Diversity, UW-Madison Police, the Human Resources Department, and the Athletic Department.
2. Special investigators were hired to assist with Title IX investigations.
3. Hearing processes for sexual violence investigations have been amended to respect the privacy concerns of complainants while ensuring appropriate due process for respondents.