

Young, Michaela

From: Young, Michaela
Sent: Wednesday, December 03, 2014 11:26 AM
To: Young, Michaela
Subject: FW: Additional Meeting Documents
Attachments: SUNY Policies on Sexual Violence Prevention and Response December 1 2014....pdf; Advisory Committee Appointments - Dec 2014.docx; CC Roster 12.3.14.docx

From: SUNY Clery Compliance List [<mailto:SUNYCLERY-L@LS.SYSADM.SUNY.EDU>] **On Behalf Of** Storch, Joseph
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 5:07 PM
To: SUNYCLERY-L@LS.SYSADM.SUNY.EDU
Subject: FW: SUNY Policies on Sexual Violence Prevention and Response

Members of the Clery Act and Title IX Listservs,

It gives us great pleasure to forward Chancellor Zimpher's email below, which completes the process of drafting uniform policies aimed at preventing sexual violence and addressing violence when it occurs. We have been privileged to work with so many of you, either as members of the Working Group, or when you who took the time to write or call with suggested changes, comments and insights. The policies benefited significantly from input across the SUNY community.

These policies are cutting-edge, and outside advocates who have seen them have called them the best in the nation and a model for other institutions. Complete information is available at the Working Group Web site: <http://system.suny.edu/sexual-violence-prevention-workgroup/>

We hope that you and your colleagues will join us for the calls referenced in the Chancellor's email below.

Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

Sincerely,
Andrea and Joe



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From: Zimpher, Nancy, Chancellor
Sent: Monday, December 01, 2014 4:58 PM
Subject: SUNY Policies on Sexual Violence Prevention and Response

Dear Presidents,

On October 8, 2014, I advised you of the Board of Trustees' Resolution relating to the development of uniform sexual violence prevention and response policies, passed on October 2, 2014, at the request of Governor Cuomo. Today I am pleased to share with you the approved set of uniform policies around this issue.

The Board's resolution gave SUNY 60 days to develop policies on preventing and responding to sexual violence to be adopted and implemented at all of SUNY's State-operated campuses and community colleges. In response, I tasked Provost Cartwright with chairing a temporary Working Group made up of experts and stakeholders from across our SUNY campuses as well as nationally recognized external advocates. The members of the Working Group represented State-operated and community colleges, with presidents, faculty, students, and professionals who share a common mission of developing policies that represent the best thinking from around the country.

The Working Group held two in-person meetings to draft and then finalize the policies, book-ended around two webinar Town Hall meetings to solicit feedback from the SUNY community and two in-person meetings with advocacy groups from around New York State. The Working Group coordinators received *hundreds* of comments, edits, and suggestions from inside and outside the SUNY community. The policies benefitted significantly from this feedback. The Governor's Office has indicated that these SUNY-developed policies will form the backbone of legislation that will be introduced next year.

The new policies:

- Ensure that victims/survivors of sexual violence know how to reach confidential, supportive resources on and off campus, including community organizations and state-wide hotlines.
- Include a "Victim/Survivor Bill of Rights," ensuring that victims/survivors will be treated with respect and dignity when disclosing crimes of sexual violence. It includes rights, protections, and remedies for victims/survivors, including options for receiving resources, protection, and accommodations; reporting to school officials and/or law enforcement; and utilizing the conduct and/or criminal justice system.
- Put clearly in writing that the campus will not charge a bystander reporting in good faith or victim/survivor of sexual violence with violation of an alcohol or drug use policy if they were under the influence at the time of the incident.
- Make victims aware of available remedies, including orders of protection, no contact orders, and adjudication through campus disciplinary proceedings and law enforcement.
- Define "consent" clearly and uniformly across the SUNY system as unambiguous, knowing, and voluntary.
- Provide a road map for an orientation and continuing awareness program to educate the campus community about preventing sexual violence, how to report it, and what resources and remedies are available for victims/survivors.
- Plan for the creation of a uniform SUNY-wide climate survey. Beginning in Spring 2015, SUNY experts will analyze past survey questions and methodologies and craft a uniform survey to be implemented by all SUNY colleges in the 2015-2016 academic year.

At next week's presidents meeting we will review an implementation schedule that allows sufficient time for careful planning and training, while supporting the adoption of these policies across the system in time for the Fall 2015 semester. As per the Board's resolution, all presidents must report on actions taken to address the policies by March 31, 2015. The Office of General Counsel will prepare a manual to provide detailed guidance to the practitioners on your individual campuses.

The Office of General Counsel will conduct two informational webinars for you and your staff to learn about the policies and ask questions about the policies and implementation.

- [Register](#) for SUNY Violence Prevention Policies Q&A #1 on Friday, December 12, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.
- [Register](#) for SUNY Violence Prevention Policies Q&A #2 on Wednesday, December 17, 2014, at 11:00 a.m.

I want to thank each of you for your hard work on this important issue. I want to especially thank Presidents Asselin, Esterberg, Murabito, and Tyrell, and the other members of the Working Group whose expertise, conscientiousness, and commitment to consensus resulted in the best sexual violence prevention and response policies in the nation.

If you have any questions on implementation, please contact Executive Director of Government Relations and Policy Jessica Todtman at jessica.todtman@suny.edu. If you have any legal questions about the policies and their impact, please contact Associate Counsel Joseph Storch at joseph.storch@suny.edu or Andrea Stagg at andrea.stagg@suny.edu.

There is no task more important than creating safe environments for our students and community members. Thank you for everything you do to advance this importance cause.

Best,
Nancy



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