Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Violence

May 6, 2014
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Perkins Room

Agenda

I. Housekeeping
   - Minutes (Steve Hyman)
   - Internal Sharepoint (Ranna Farzan)
   - Website (Ranna Farzan)
   - Response to queries about Title IX complaint (Mia Karvonides, Bob Iuliano)

II. Review of the Report of the White House Task Force (Mia Karvonides, Alicia Oeser)

III. Discussion about whether to create working subcommittees, and their possible charges (Steve Hyman)

IV. Activity before the end of the year
   - Proposed Hyman Op-Ed (Steve Hyman)
   - Student outreach (Paul Barreira, Stephanie Khurana)
   - Contacting other institutions, identifying researchable gaps in knowledge (all)

V. Looking Forward (all)
   - Summer activity
   - Draft plan for the coming semester
   - How do we hit the ground running at our first meeting?
Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Violence

Minutes of the May 6, 2014 Meeting

The meeting began with the approval of the minutes from the April 18 meeting. The members agreed that these minutes will be shared with the community via the Task Force website.

The members then received an update on the status of the task force’s website and email account. Emphasizing the importance of communication with the community, the group discussed the multiple ways to contact and share information with the task force: a dedicated email address to be managed by task force staff as well as the option to contact the task force through the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response (OSAPR). The group also discussed adding links to external resources on sexual violence prevention.

The University Title IX Officer and Director of OSAPR then gave a brief overview of the materials released last week by the White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault, touching on two key areas of focus: climate surveys and prevention tools. Links to these materials can be found here.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of how the task force might best approach the work it will undertake over the summer. It was determined that the group will work most effectively as split into several sub-committees, at the outset consisting of: a sub-committee to determine how best to engage in the important work on outreach and communications with the community; a sub-committee to work on the development of a methodologically sound climate survey; and a sub-committee to study the literature on the causes and most effective means of preventing sexual assault on college and university campuses. It was expected that the sub-committees would report regularly on the progress of their work to the committee as a whole.