

**SUNY Sexual Violence Prevention (SVP) Campus Climate Survey Report**

**SUNY Ulster**

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The campus climate survey administered this year was intended to gather information about the rate of incidents of sexual violence and knowledge of policies and resources. By law, every SUNY campus is required to participate in this survey project. This report includes an Executive Summary that may be used for public websites or other campus publications. As per policy 'Results will be published on the campus website providing no personally identifiable information shall be shared' Details and recommendations are also included in this report

<http://system.suny.edu/sexual-violence-prevention-workgroup/policies/campus-climate/>

## **Executive Summary**

*On April 3 through 24, 2017 SUNY Ulster conducted its first-ever Sexual Violence Prevention Campus Climate Survey. The survey was administered to students, faculty and staff.*

*By SUNY policy this uniform survey ascertains faculty and staff awareness of policies and resources, and student experience with and knowledge of reporting and college adjudicatory processes for sexual harassment, including sexual violence and other related crimes.*

*There were 128 responses for faculty and staff or a 31% response rate. Results indicated that faculty and staff are generally aware of the policies and laws, and resources. There is an indication that follow-up is needed in selected areas to provide up-to-date information to faculty and staff.*

*There were 116 responses for students or a response rate of 7% of those invited to participate in the survey. Results indicated students were generally aware that the college has policies and procedures around preventing and reporting sexual violence and sexual misconduct. Results indicate students need more information about specific policies and are unlikely or unsure of how to prevent sexual misconduct or how to assist victims and survivors. The results provide timely information for the Student Services staff when considering Title IX training for new students during the summer of 2017.*

*A campus committee will review all results and will hold a meeting with appropriate leadership to review specific results and to further detail recommendations based on the findings.*

*Questions about the survey should be directed to Dr. Ann Marrott, Title IX Coordinator, at [marrotta@sunyulster.edu](mailto:marrotta@sunyulster.edu).*

## **Background**

SUNY Ulster's goal in providing the survey was to determine the level of awareness and knowledge by the campus community around the college's sexual violence prevention and response policies and procedures. In turn, the results are being used to identify enhancements to its sexual misconduct prevention and response training for all students, faculty and staff; programming offered throughout the year through extracurricular activities; and information distributed to all members of the campus community. While SUNY Ulster does not provide student housing, the college believes it is important to provide training and education to the campus community to prevent sexual misconduct from taking place on campus and to inform

the campus community on the resources available, should faculty, staff or students encounter sexual violence in the larger community.

SUNY Ulster’s institutional learning outcomes include educating students to be global citizens, acting ethically, and engaging civically to improve their community. This survey will help the college prepare students to serve as knowledgeable citizens when monitoring their behavior and that of family and friends and to serve as effective bystanders to help prevent sexual violence in their community.

### **Methodology**

An introductory email was sent to potential respondents on March 28 explaining the intent and purpose of the survey and the timetable for completion. Campus Labs served as a 3rd party platform. Respondents had 3 weeks to complete the survey and, if not already completed, received reminders to complete the survey in weeks 2 and 3. Respondents were reminded that participation was completely voluntary and answers were anonymous. They were also informed they could stop completing the survey whenever they wished. Respondents were provided with access to on and off-campus resources should the completion of the survey trigger stress or anxiety.

All full and part time faculty and staff were emailed the survey on April 3 and invited to complete the survey online, totaling 423 potential respondents for a 30% response rate. All currently enrolled matriculated students – those attending face to face, blended and online classes -- were included in the survey. All nonmatriculated students were also included, with the exception of Collegian students, who are dual enrollment students in area high schools and, most likely, not yet 18 years of age. Invitations were emailed to 1,853 students to complete the survey for a 6.3% response rate or 116 student participating. Sample sizes for both groups were generated by SUNY Ulster.

Only two campus staff had access to the data, Hank Miller, SUNY Ulster’s Director of Institutional Research, and Ann Marrott, Senior Vice President and Title IX Coordinator.

### **Respondents**

Respondents to the survey were reflective of the demographics of the college, as shown by the tables below and on the next page:

	<b>FACULTY &amp; STAFF</b>	<b>STUDENTS</b>
<b>Number of Potential Respondents</b>	423	1,853
<b>Response Rate</b>	30%	6.3%

<b>STUDENTS AGE</b>	<b>CLIMATE SURVEY STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC RESULTS</b>	<b>SUNY ULSTER STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FALL 2016</b>
18-20 Years Old	43.9%	48.9%
21-24 Years Old	25.9%	21.2%
25-34 Years Old	17.2%	18.6%
35-44 Years Old	9.5%	6.4%
45-54 Years Old	2.6%	3.2%
55 and over	0.9%	0.9%
No Response	0.2%	0.1%

<b>STUDENTS GENDER</b>	<b>CLIMATE SURVEY STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC RESULTS</b>	<b>SUNY ULSTER STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FALL 2016</b>
MALE	36.1%	46.3%
FEMALE	52.5%	53.7%
GENDER/QUEER	4.9%	N/A
NO ANSWER	6.5%	N/A

<b>STUDENTS PART TIME/ FULL TIME</b>	<b>CLIMATE SURVEY STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC RESULTS</b>	<b>SUNY ULSTER STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FALL 2016</b>
PART TIME	28.6%	34.8%
FULL TIME	71.4%	65.2%

<b>STUDENTS ETHNICITY</b>	<b>CLIMATE SURVEY STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC RESULTS</b>	<b>SUNY ULSTER STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FALL 2016</b>
WHITE	62.3%	69.5%
NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER	0%	0%
HISPANIC OR LATINO	11.5%	10.5%
BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN	16.4%	6.9%
ASIAN OR ASIAN AMERICAN	1.6%	0.9%
AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE	8.2%	0.3%
NO ANSWER	16.4%	6.1%

## Results

### ***Faculty and Staff***

Full responses to the survey questions may be found [here](#). Highlights of the general results include:

- 85% knew that SUNY Ulster had policies and procedures addressing sexual assault;
- Only 15% did not recall receiving information regarding these policies and procedures, while most indicated receiving this information verbally, via electronic and printed means;
- Slightly more than 10% of the respondents indicated that students disclosed to them that they were a victim of an unwanted sexual experience (including sexual assault), domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking (on or off campus) over the last year;
- 80% agreed with the statement that if a student were sexually assaulted, they would know how to advise them on where to get help on campus;
- 94% knew that someone who was incapacitated could not provide consent to sex;
- 95% knew to whom a victim or survivor could disclose a sexual assault; and
- 73% knew how to find the Title IX coordinator.

### *Highlights of Areas to Address Include:*

- Just over half (54%) were aware of the difference between confidential and private resources on campus;
- Only 41% were aware of the SUNY policy for alcohol and/or drug use amnesty in reporting sexual violence cases;
- 28% were not sure of the roles of the Title IX Coordinator with regard to sex discrimination, sex assault, and/or harassment; and
- 98% indicated awareness of on-campus and community resources, although awareness was uneven about these resources

### ***Student Responses***

Responses to all questions are available [here](#). Highlights of the general results include:

- 80% were aware the campus has policies and procedures specifically addressing sexual assault;
- 78% recalled receiving written (e.g., brochures, emails) and/or verbal information (e.g., presentations, training) from the college about sexual misconduct prevention, reporting and resources;
- 79% were aware of the definition of affirmative consent before this survey;
- 87% were aware that someone who is incapacitated cannot provide consent;
- 90% could identify the availability of some sexual and interpersonal violence resources;
- 18% of students reported during the last year experiencing unwanted sexual comments, sexual slurs, or demeaning jokes; 13% reported during the last year receiving unwanted

sexually suggestive digital communications (words, images, emails, texts, social media communications, letters, etc.); and 9% reported during the last year someone fondled, kissed, or rubbed up against them even though the student did not give consent for the activity; and

- Of the 62 respondents, 13% reported that within the last year their casual, serious, dating or intimate partner had called them derogatory names (fat, stupid, ugly, etc.); and 10% reported these partners did not want the respondent to see, talk to, or spend time with others (e.g., family, friends, etc.)

*Highlights of Areas to Address Include:*

- 70% of students knew how to report sexual harassment and sexual assault, but less than 55% knew how to report stalking, dating violence or domestic violence; and almost 30% did not know how to report any of these;
- Only 55% were aware of the SUNY policy for alcohol and/or drug use amnesty in reporting sexual violence cases;
- 20% of respondents did not know to whom a victim/survivor or witness should formally disclose a sexual assault on campus;
- 43% of students responding did not know the roles of a Title IX Coordinator with respect to sex discrimination/sexual assault/sexual misconduct;
- Only 38% of students knew how to find the Title IX Coordinator;
- Regarding bystander involvement:
  - Only 37% reported they believe a fellow student will express their discomfort if someone makes a joke about a person's body;
  - Almost 15% think it unlikely a fellow student would call for help (e.g. call 911) if they hear a neighbor yelling "help";
  - About 20% reported it unlikely they think a fellow student would get help and resources for a friend who tells them that they have been assaulted;
  - 40% reported that it would be unlikely a fellow student would confront a friend who tells them that they had sex with someone who was passed out or who didn't give consent;
  - 27% reported it would be unlikely a fellow student would do something to help a very drunk person who is being brought upstairs by a group of people at a party; and
  - 28% reported it unlikely a fellow student would tell an RA or other campus authority about information they have that might help in a sexual assault case even if pressured by their friends to stay silent.

From <<http://system.suny.edu/sexual-violence-prevention-workgroup/policies/campus-climate/>>

## **Discussion and next steps**

SUNY Ulster faculty and staff appear to be well informed about the college having policies and procedures addressing sexual violence and its prevention but vary in their knowledge of the content of the policies and the resources available to members of the campus community on and off campus. Given that 10% of students have confided in faculty and staff about being a victim or survivor of sexual misconduct, and 18% of students reporting they have received some form of unwanted communication of a sexual nature, it is important to ensure all members of the campus community have an increased awareness and knowledge of these resources and how to access them.

It appears the annual training provided to faculty and staff at the beginning of the academic year is effective and should continue. Future training will highlight the results of this survey and the areas needing greater attention.

Results of the student responses to this survey will be reviewed with students who present Title IX training as peer educators to all incoming students, helping them refine their presentations to emphasize those areas needing greater attention. Survey results may also be shared with incoming students, alerting them to the importance of participating in future surveys and to underscore the seriousness with which the college addresses this issue. While training for new students, athletes, and student leaders will concentrate on developing greater awareness and knowledge of the policies and how they apply to students, bystander training must take a greater role in student orientation to campus life. The results of this survey indicate students are either unaware how to intervene, when to intervene, or how to help a victim or survivor after an event.

The Title IX Coordinator will review the results of this survey with the Title IX Advisory Team to identify additional steps to put in place to further expand knowledge of the college's policies and how to access available resources.

## Appendix A

### **About Campus Labs:**

The Campus Labs® platform offers integrated software and cloud-based assessment tools for higher education. The corporate mission is focused on empowering and transforming colleges and universities through strategic data insights. Campus Labs is headquartered in Buffalo, New York. Specific to the SUNY Sexual Violence Prevention (SVP) Campus Climate Survey, Campus Labs is providing the technology to administer the survey and analyze the collected data. Campus Labs has also provided consultation in the form of two consultants whose role is to advise SUNY representatives on the logistics and administration of the survey.

### **Data Security:**

Campus Labs is committed to maintaining the highest standards in data security. To protect information used in internet transactions (e.g. online surveys, data reports), Campus Labs uses the following security techniques and procedures:

- Secure login access (username and password) is required to access all data reports
- Information is exchanged via Secure Socket Layer (SSL) that uses 128-bit encryption
- Information requests must pass through multiple hardware and software security firewalls
- Campus Labs' data center is monitored 24/7 and access is restricted to authorized parties with validated key cards
- Data is backed up every hour internally
- Data is backed up every night to a centralized backup system, with offsite backups in the event of catastrophe.
- Campus representatives will have access to all data for their campus only.
- SUNY Administrators will have access to the data of all participating campuses
- Respondent identifiers are hidden from the SUNY and campus representatives administering the SVP Campus Climate Survey. At no time will SUNY or campus representatives be able to see respondent identifiers linked to individual's responses.

## Appendix B

### SUNY Policy

SUNY Policies on Sexual Violence Prevention and Response <http://system.suny.edu/sexual-violence-prevention-workgroup/policies/> and <http://system.suny.edu/sexual-violence-prevention-workgroup/policies/response/>

SUNY Policies <http://system.suny.edu/compliance/topics/sexual-violence-prevention/>

Campus Resources and Best Practices <http://system.suny.edu/university-life/sexual-assault-prevention/>

Sexual Assault and Violence Response Resources <https://www.suny.edu/violence-response/>  
with resources on or off campus by location, campus, city.

