

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

May 23, 2016

Dear Sexual Violence Advisory Committee Members:

First, let me begin by thanking each of you for your service on the committee and your commitment to enhancing the University's response, prevention and education efforts, and supportive services. I appreciate the work of the committee in gathering input from the campus community and representing the voice of the campus on this important issue. I have outlined below responses to each of the recommendations outlined in the toolkit developed by the Sexual Violence Advisory Committee.

Recommendations to increase transparency and sustainability:

In response to the committee's recommendation to continue the Sexual Violence Advisory Committee (SVAC) in the 2016-2017 academic year, I write to confirm that I will continue to convene the SVAC in the 2016-2017 academic year. I concur with the committee's recommendation to continue to engage in activities to gather and share the perspectives of the campus community through open forums and increased committee involvement in conducting focus groups with campus constituents. As the committee continues to convene, I look forward to your involvement as I carry out the recommendations made in the toolkit. I concur with the committee's recommendation to develop a central website and efforts are underway to develop a comprehensive website that will serve as the central resource to the campus community for information pertaining to the University's Relationship Violence and Sexual Misconduct Policy. The new website is expected to launch at the outset of the fall 2016 semester and I look forward to reviewing the website with the committee and seeking your feedback on the site.



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In response to the recommendation that SVAC provide input on major events that occur on campus, I believe the committee can play an important role in representing the perspectives of the constituents represented and help facilitate ongoing dialogues on important issues and in response to specific events. Finally, in consideration of these recommendations and in an effort to better align SVAC with other related committees (Violence Free Communities and Title IX Working Group), I will revise the committee charge and share with members at our first meeting in fall 2016.

Improve Campus Programs and Multi-Dose Learning:

In response to recommendations for multi-dose learning programs including programs that are tailored to students from diverse backgrounds, I can confirm that plans are underway to offer annual online training to all students that will follow a dosed learning model. First year students will complete a full-length online program with sophomores, juniors, and seniors completing a different program each year as they progress in their education. These progression programs will explore specific content areas at a deeper level. Additionally, specialized online education programs will be offered for graduate students and faculty/staff. Finally, the SARV program will continue to offer in-person workshops for first-year students as well as

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specialized workshops for LGBT students, international students, and fraternities/sororities. I have allocated an additional half-time graduate assistant to support the SARV Program in developing additional workshops and educational programs. I will continue to work with members of Violence Free Communities to identify opportunities to enhance educational programs in support the diverse communities on campus.

While I appreciate the recommendation to present information at Academic Orientation, I have received conflicting feedback about the effectiveness of presenting at the Academic Orientation Program given the current format that only provides for short 5-minute presentations. For 2016-2017, I will provide written information that will be included in the packets students receive. If changes are made to the structure of AOP or if sufficient time can be carved out for a presentation in the future, I will reconsider this recommendation.

In response to the recommendation for a mandatory SARV program for faculty, staff, and students, the SARV program will continue to be required for all first year students and will be aligned with the new online course as part of a comprehensive approach to our education efforts; however, the SARV workshop will not have a separate consequence identified for the 2016-2017 academic year. As we pilot this new approach to our educational programs, we will reassess needs surrounding a separate consequence for the SARV workshop in the future. Employees are currently required to complete an online education program within 30 days of hire and biennially thereafter. This requirement will continue. Employees who fail to complete the training are subject to disciplinary action. Additional in-person training programs are offered upon request to faculty, staff, and students.

Finally, I concur with recommendations from the committee to identify new and innovative ways to engage the campus community on this important topic. Plans include development of supporting communication materials such as brochures and resource guides, and purchase of promotional materials/items. Additionally, I will continue to work through Violence Free Communities to identify additional opportunities to raise awareness.

Thank you again for your work this year and for the integral role you played in representing the voice of the community in this process. We have accomplished much this year and I look forward to working with you next year as we continue to advance our efforts in this area.

Sincerely,



Jessica Norris
Title IX and ADA Coordinator