

APPENDIX

Testimony for Senate Higher Education Committee

December 12, 2016

Sarah McMahon

Thank you Chairwoman Cunningham and members of the Senate Higher Education Committee. I am pleased to be here today as a part of the Task Force as well as representing Rutgers University to highlight the importance of campus climate surveys. I currently serve as Associate Director of our Center on Violence Against Women at the Rutgers School of Social Work, where we have been collaborating with the White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault on the development and implementation of campus climate surveys. I have been fortunate enough to be able to share some of the lessons we've learned with the NJ Task Force and to engage in meaningful conversation about the role of campus climate surveys in addressing campus sexual assault with my esteemed fellow task force members.

At this point, the administration of campus climate surveys has been identified as a best practice by a number of entities including the White House Task Force and Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women. Although there is a clear need to facilitate appropriate, supportive, and effective *responses* by universities to campus sexual assault, it is essential to first gather information to understand the scope, impact, and students' perceptions of the university's responsiveness to sexual assault on each campus. In this sense, campus climate surveys are recognized as a critical "first step" in helping to better define the problem. The surveys allow universities to gather campus-specific information about their institutions to paint a picture of what is happening on each unique campus. This is critical because the information should ultimately lead to the development and implementation of a tailored action plan to address the gaps of each unique institution, which will not look the same across the board. We've had great success in using campus climate surveys on three of our campuses – in New Brunswick, Newark, and Camden- to gather rich information about our students and then use that data to collaboratively develop tailored action plans to strengthen our response to, and prevention of, campus sexual assault.

Many pieces need to be in place in order to make campus climate surveys successful. For example, we've found that support from campus leadership is absolutely essential to the success of the assessment. This includes a commitment of resources- not only to conducting the assessment, but also to the resources needed to address gaps. Leadership also paves the way for engaging students across the campus and encourages participation, as well as making a statement that this is indeed an important issue at that institution. In our experience, obtaining the support of institutional leaders is not always easy. There is understandably some hesitation by many universities; conducting campus climate surveys will reveal weaknesses and problems on campus. There are concerns about how this will impact the university's reputation. However, at this point it should be clear that this level of accountability is expected by our students, their families, and the public. It does indeed take "institutional courage" to conduct these assessments. We've found that actually, those universities who conduct campus climate surveys and are transparent about their findings are able to help build trust within their community.

In addition to the involvement of campus leaders, there is the very real issue of resources. Campus climate surveys cost money to implement and analyze. The good news is that there are many resources available at this point to help colleges and universities conduct campus climate assessments. For example, the Department of Justice, the Bureau of Justice Statistics, and the Office of Violence Against Women have worked on developing an excellent, rigorously tested campus climate survey tool that is free and available for all to use. The White House's *Not Alone* resource guide provides extensive information and tools related to campus sexual violence and campus climate surveys. And, our own Center on Violence Against Women and Children at the Rutgers School of Social Work has published a free guide on conducting campus climate surveys, complete with templates, tools, and guidance.

Our task force is considering the critical role that campus climate assessments have to play in the efforts of colleges and universities to address campus sexual assault. We look forward to sharing our recommendations with you in our report. Thank you for the opportunity to share our experiences and lessons learned.

Senate Higher Education Committee
Legislative Hearing on Campus Sexual Assaults

December 12, 2016

Testimony on behalf of Ramapo College of New Jersey c/o:
Peter P. Mercer, L.L.B., Ph.D., College President, ex officio of the Board of Trustees

Thank you Madam Chair, and Senators, for convening such an important discussion. I am Peter Mercer, president of Ramapo College of New Jersey. I am joined today by my colleague Melissa Van Der Wall, Dean of Students and one of Ramapo's Deputy Title IX Coordinators.

In 2015 I testified before you that sexual violence was one of the most important issues that we faced in higher education across the country and here at home. That remains true today.

I come to this issue not only as a College President, but as a father. As parents we agonize from the minute our children are born on how best to prepare them for the world outside the safety of our homes. It is clear to me that our students, our children, are grappling with issues of sexual violence long before they arrive on our collective college doorsteps. Their mores are well-developed, as are their ideas about consent and their definitions of sexual violence.

Over the past two years my colleagues and I at Ramapo College have engaged in a number of related student-centered programs, trainings and policy reforms to address sexual violence. As some of you may be aware, we also commissioned two independent reports aimed at strengthening our sexual assault prevention and education policies and practices, and we made those reports available in their entirety to the public. Born from those independent reports, Ramapo College developed an action plan titled *Ramapo: Advance*.

I am here today to share with you that the College's progress under *Ramapo: Advance* is substantial. We continue to hold culpable perpetrators accountable. We continue to support victims and survivors. And we are investing significant time and resources to changing a culture that too often victimizes our daughters and sons.

To summarize, briefly, the initiatives in *Ramapo: Advance* included:

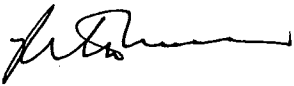
- Enhancing our Title IX infrastructure with specialized training for investigators.
This has been completed.

- Creating a centralized website with clearly-written information on how to report an incident, links to current policies and on- and off-campus resources. This has been completed.
- Updating and/or strengthening the College's Bystander Intervention and Sexual Assault training programs and its Sexual Misconduct Policy. This has been completed and I will ask Dean Van Der Wall to provide you with more detail on these fronts.
- In addition to these initiatives, *Ramapo: Advance* also committed the College to strengthening its reporting infrastructure for sexual violence under Title IX and the Clery Act. This has been completed.
- Ensuring that confidential health, counseling, athletic training, and pastoral resources are available on campus to serve as confidential victim advocates. This has been completed.
- Updating our MOU with Law Enforcement Authorities to inform them of the College's required responses under federal law. This is ongoing and we are grateful for the iterative input, counsel, and support we have received from the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office and the Mahwah Police Department.
- Holding routine debriefing meetings consisting of leadership from Residence Life, Student Conduct, Counseling Services and Public Safety to review reporting and enforcement activities. These meetings are ongoing and Dean Van Der Wall is at the center of them.
- The College also made additional public safety investments, including a commitment to increase the number of Public Safety Officers on campus, and enhanced community policing and enforcement training. This has been completed.
- We committed to increasing training for faculty, staff and student leaders as they are on the front lines and likely resources for victims, survivors and their supporters. This has been completed.
- Development of a mobile anonymous reporting system as a complement to our long standing Good Samaritan Policy, which empowers students to do the right thing and seek medical attention for themselves or others without the fear of disciplinary outcomes. This is underway and we plan to launch a mobile app for reporting later this academic year.

We will not allow the grim nature of this effort to deter us. As we continue our work we appreciate the support and leadership of this committee, and our community partners in law enforcement and rape prevention.

With that, I thank you all for your attention and turn now, with the Committee's approval, to introduce Dean Van Der Wall.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter P. Mercer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "P" and "M".

Peter P. Mercer, L.L.B., Ph.D.

College President, *ex officio* of the Board of Trustees

Senate Higher Education Committee
Legislative Hearing on Campus Sexual Assaults

December 12, 2016

Testimony on behalf of Ramapo College of New Jersey c/o:
Melissa Van Der Wall, M.P.A., Dean of Students & Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Thank you Madam Chair and Senators for inviting Ramapo College here today.

Introducing and implementing change is challenging within any organization and it bears mention that, while Ramapo is not unique in this respect, its efforts to critique, change, and enhance its programs, policies and services benefit greatly from unwavering support at the very top of the institution, inclusive of the Board of Trustees, the President, the senior administration, the Faculty Assembly Executive Council, and the Student Government Association.

On the topic of Sexual Assault and Bystander Intervention, we have accomplished this education through a 3-part training program for all new students. The students are first exposed to sexual assault and bystander intervention education through a two-part on-line educational module entitled, Haven: Understanding Sexual Assault. Next, students are engaged through in-person education by the Students Challenging Realities and Educating Against Myths program; otherwise known as SCREAM Theater. This Rutgers supported peer-to-peer theater presentation is mandated for new students to attend during Welcome Week. Students experience messaging connected to education about sexual assault and bystander intervention in a live theater interactive format. Finally, students receive Affirmative Consent training through their First Year Seminar Courses, which is facilitated by our off campus partners healingSpace, a sexual assault support and advocacy center in Bergen County.

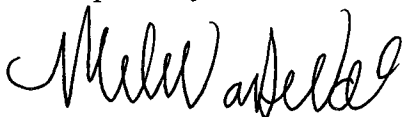
In addition to new students, the College offers education and awareness programs to continuing students. We ensure that voices are heard on the topics of sexual assault by engaging the community in well-attended town-hall forums connected to Title IX and our own college policies. We continue to educate student leader groups such as Resident Assistants and Peer Facilitators, on the role that they play in supporting students.

Ramapo College joined the national *It's On Us* campaign by creating our own video that featured faculty, staff, students, as well as myself and President Mercer. Our Student-Athletes and Coaches crafted their own *It's On Us* video that was widely shared on campus. We offer programming through the Rape Aggression Defense Systems, education during Violence Prevention Week in October such as the Clothesline Project and featuring nationally known keynote speakers, and awareness events during Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April such as the Vagina Monologues, Take Back the Night, Denim Day, the Day to End Rape Culture, and Affirmative Consent peer-to-peer promotion. The College also administered a campus-wide sexual assault climate survey. The information collected therein helps us assess what types of policies, programs, and services will best support our students moving forward.

Finally, our sexual misconduct policy was reviewed and drafted by a consultant and revisions were instituted in January 2016. The Sexual Misconduct Policy Governing students makes it clear to the victim or survivor what their rights are for reporting options in easy to read language. The revised policy eliminated the traditionally known student conduct hearing for cases of this nature and replaced it with a complete, fair, and impartial investigation process with an administrator issuing a decision. I am pleased to report that Ramapo's Debriefing Meetings cultivate a climate whereby key administrators are engaged in a constant feedback loop pertaining to policies, procedures and enforcement. This has established a platform for colleagues to voice feedback and leverage enhancements to the College's critical incident management. This model has proven to be a constructive approach to assessing all types of on-campus incidents so that student safety and support are continuously enhanced.

With that, I thank you all for your attention and I join President Mercer in welcoming the Committee's comments and questions.

Respectfully submitted,



Melissa Van Der Wall, M.P.A.

Dean of Students, Deputy Title IX Coordinator

William Paterson University

Testimony before the Senate Higher Education Committee

December 12, 2016

Good morning Chairwoman Cunningham, Vice Chair Pou and members of the Senate Higher Education committee. I am Dr. Miki Cammarata, Vice President for Student Development at William Paterson University. I want to thank the Chair and the committee for holding this hearing to discuss sexual assault, which is a societal issue and one colleges and universities across the country are facing.

Like most colleges and universities, William Paterson University has unfortunately had incidents of sexual assault on campus. Like our sister institutions, we have formal sexual assault policies and procedures that are compliant with federal and state laws and have dedicated significant resources to preventing sexual assault and in the event it occurs to providing support services for victims/survivors and appropriate investigation and adjudication processes. We regularly review assessment results and other measures to evaluate our progress and modify programs and services as appropriate.

William Paterson University has a long history of providing education and support to both prevent and respond to sexual violence on campus. In my October 2015 testimony to this committee I highlighted our Department of Justice grant and provided examples of the programs and services we have in place. The packet I provided today includes a list of these activities, as well as relevant brochures, flyers and resource materials. I will not take up time now to review all of this but rather will highlight a few important elements and advise you of some new developments since we spoke last.

As part of a formal violence prevention program led by a full-time Coordinator, we have programs and services in place for both education/prevention and victim services. Our required educational programs include online training for all new students, staff and full-time faculty and a peer-led interactive/theater activity on bystander intervention and responsible decision making for all first-year students (freshmen). Additionally, we provide targeted in-person workshops and presentations for faculty and staff groups and for certain student groups, including resident assistants, student patrol, peer health advocates, student athletes and fraternity and sorority members. We also provide specialized training for student conduct officers and judicial board members who are responsible for adjudicating sexual assault cases and our Title IX Coordinator and Campus Police officers participate in relevant training both on and off campus. We are planning a Campus Climate Survey for the Spring.

Since we met last, we have introduced a few new educational initiatives that you may be interested in. In Fall 2015 our Student Government Association, with support from student clubs and organizations, faculty, our office of Campus Victim Services and other staff and

administration, launched an It's On Us awareness campaign and educational program, modeled after the national campaign. The goals of the program were to spread awareness and reduce sexual violence by providing useful information and prevention tips to the campus community. Students from university clubs and organizations each presented on a specific topic with the overarching message of preventing sexual violence. Attendees were offered the opportunity to visit each station to learn from the student presenters, and to take the online pledge to prevent sexual violence at ItsOnUs.org. This event has drawn well over 150 students each year. One of our It's On Us flyers is in your packet. Additionally, just a few weeks ago, the faculty and staff sponsored a campus teach-in on sexual violence. The teach-in program is in your packets. The topics included Title IX and University policies, sexual violence statistics and prevention efforts, and the aftermath of sexual assault. Collectively, over 300 students, faculty, staff and administrators attended one or more session.

Reported incidents of sexual violence at William Paterson University are comparatively low but regrettably do still occur. A reported sexual assault is responded to immediately, following our published policies and procedures. These policies and procedures are guided by Title IX, VAWA and Clery and how we proceed may vary, based on victim wishes and the specific circumstances surrounding that case. Our processes consider the rights of both the complainant ("victim") and the respondent (accused).

While we all want to eradicate sexual assault on our campuses, we must be careful to not presume that a reduction in reported incidents is in and of itself an indication of progress. Prevention and intervention efforts should produce a reduction in incidents; however, if we accept the National Sexual Violence Resource Center statistic that more than 90% of campus victims/survivors do not report, often for fear of not being believed, being retaliated against, re-victimized, etc., then one measure of progress could very well be an increase in reports. The key is to have several indicators and to review regularly to insure we are having the desired effect.

On behalf of the entire William Paterson University Community, thank you for your interest in this topic and our opinions on it. I am happy to answer any questions that the committee may have.

ax

William Paterson University Campus Victim Services

A Step by Step Guide for Faculty and Staff Responding to Reports of Sexual Assault

If a student discloses sexual assault to you...

Step 1: Listen & Be Attentive*
to the needs of the student

- Physical well-being
- Emotional well-being
- Provide non-judgmental support

Step 2: Connect Students
with resources

- Campus Victim Services
- Counseling, Health & Wellness
- Local sexual assault services program

Provide a copy of brochure:
Information for Survivors

Step 3: Contact

the Title IX Coordinator

- Michelle Johnson:
973-720-2389
johnsonm73@wpunj.edu
- Complete report form
found on WP website

*You must report the incident
to the Title IX Coordinator.*

***IMPORTANT:** You must inform student of your responsibility to report the assault.

Sexual assault is any sexual contact or behavior that occurs without consent of the recipient of the unwanted sexual activity, including penetration, attempted penetration, groping, and forced kissing. William Paterson University prohibits all forms of sexual violence, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct, including sexual assault, unwanted sexual contact, sexual exploitation, lewdness, relationship violence, stalking, voyeurism, and sexual activity resulting from emotional coercion.

WHAT DO I SAY?

As a responsible employee under Title IX regulations, you have an obligation to report any known student-on-student or employee-on-student incidents of sexual violence, regardless of where it occurs. If you believe a student is about to disclose an incident to you, it is OK to let that student know that you are not a confidential source and your responsibility to report. (See back of page for confidential on-campus resources)

When a student *does* disclose a sexual assault to you, you can say something like:

"I appreciate what you have been able to share with me and I'm very sorry that this happened to you. Before you tell me more, I want to let you know that I will need to contact the WP Title IX Coordinator, whose responsibility it is to know about incidents of sexual assault. She will contact you and can coordinate possible next steps. You may want to contact the Campus Victim Services Coordinator for further support."



For more information on sexual assault
policy and resources go to:

wpunj.edu/employment-equity/title-ix/

VICTIM REPORTING OPTIONS

Office of the Vice President for Student Development

- 973-720-2179
- Offers information to students about options through the internal disciplinary system as well as guidance and support regarding academic and housing concerns

Title IX Coordinator

- Michelle Johnson: 973-720-2389
- Oversees the University's response to sexual violence complaints
- Ensures that appropriate measures are taken to address complaints

William Paterson University Police

- 973-720-2300 (emergency); 973-720-2301 (non-emergency)
- Provides assistance with medical treatment and assistance in pursuing criminal charges
- A report to the police is not mandatory when reporting to the Title IX Coordinator

COUNSELING AND SUPPORT

Counseling, Health, and Wellness Center

- 973-720-2257 (counselor on-call after hours in case of emergency)
- Overlook South, ground floor (between White and Matelson Halls)
- Professional and confidential counseling for students

Campus Victim Services

- Theresa Bivaletz, Coordinator: 973-720-2578
- Women's Center, Student Center Room 313
- Confidential advocacy for survivors
- Provides all available options/next steps to survivors or friends of survivors

William Paterson University

Highlights of Provided Programs and Services addressing Sexual Assault

Background:

- Recipient of a grant from the US Department of Justice/Office of Violence against Women in 2010 to establish the Campus Violence Prevention Program (CVPP). Funding was renewed in 2013 and ends in 2017. Total funding received to date is \$599,464.
- Recognized by the Department of Justice/Office of Violence Against Women: selected to host a visit (one of four campuses among the 100+ campuses with the grant) in Spring 2014 from Associate Director Johnson, who cited William Paterson University's Campus Violence Prevention Program as a model program.
- As a result of the grant we were able to implement several educational programs and support services in 2010, which have allowed us to stay ahead of the curve on meeting federal regulations and aligning with best practices.

Prevention/Education:

- Mandatory online educational program for all incoming students (*Not Anymore* <http://not-anymore.com/>)
- Mandatory online educational program for all full-time employees.
- Mandatory bystander peer theater program presented each Fall for all freshmen. This is a prevention program meant to empower students to take a stand against sexual violence.
- Education/outreach programs for targeted audiences. Examples include:
 - Tony Porter to presentation *A Call to Men* at mandatory training event for fraternities and sororities
 - worked with football coach to implement *Coaching Boys to Men* with our team of 100 players
 - presented during new student orientations for athletes and for veterans
- Hold numerous events and programs throughout the year and annually to raise awareness related to sexual assault, domestic/dating violence and stalking, examples include: Movies, Talks, Survivor Panels, Poster Displays, Purple Ribbon Displays, Clothesline Project, Silent Witness Project, Take Back the Night, It's On Us, One Billion Rising, Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, Every Heart Has a Story, Empty Place at the Table, etc.
- Provide mandatory training on dynamics of domestic, dating, stalking and sexual violence for student employees such as Resident Assistants, Peer Health Advocates, Freshmen Peer Leaders and Student Patrol.
- Peer Health Advocates offer a *Voices Against Violence* workshop in the classroom setting when requested by faculty.

- Offer a three credit academic course titled *Domestic Violence* was developed and offered over two semesters in the Sociology/Criminal Justice Department.
- Launched a “Men Can Stop Rape” educational program that promotes healthy masculinity and enlists men in the prevention effort. Twenty WPU male administrators, coaches, police officers and student leaders were trained to offer programs to students.
- Faculty/Staff Teach-in on Sexual Assault policy, prevention and aftermath.

Victim Services:

- In August 2014, hired a full-time Campus Victim Services Coordinator (CVSC) who provides education to the campus community and confidential services to victims.
- Initiated a poster campaign to introduce campus community to the CVSC. Posters were placed in public bathrooms throughout student center in early November 2014 and remain there currently.
- We offer a variety of educational materials and numerous programs and targeted presentations/training over the course of the year.



i am a VOICE against
DOMESTIC • DATING • STALKING • SEXUAL
V I O L E N C E

What will you do?

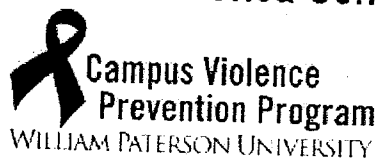
Mandatory for all First-Year Students

Pick One Showing:

Fall 2015

- Tuesday, October 27th - 12:30PM to 1:45PM
- Wednesday, October 28th - 5:00PM to 6:15PM

Shea Center for Performing Arts



This project was supported by Grant No. 2010-WA-AK-0211 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this program are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY



Men Can Stop Rape Training 9/30/15

Men Can Stop Rape is a national organization and partner with the Federal OVW Campus Grant Program. Their mission is to mobilize men to use their strength for creating cultures free from violence, especially men's violence against women. They seek to institutionalize primary prevention of men's violence against women through sustained initiatives that generate positive, measurable outcomes in populations throughout the world.

Trainers from MCSR will be visiting William Paterson University for a train-the-trainer workshop on September 30, 2015. Participants of this half day training will gain expertise at helping young men develop emotional intelligence, a part of healthy masculinity, and at creating a diverse toolbox of nonviolent intervention strategies.

By the end of this training, participants will be able to:

- o explain how unhealthy masculinity negatively affects young men's relationship with bystander intervention and sexual assault prevention
- o connect nonviolent, healthy masculinity with young men and bystander intervention
- o conduct a one-hour sexual assault bystander intervention workshop that is applicable for all genders, but especially young men.

Wednesday, September 30, 2015

9:00am-1:00pm

Ballroom C



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WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY
Sexual Assault Awareness Month



SCREENING OF THE RECENTLY-RELEASED DOCUMENTARY

IT HAPPENED HERE

Q&A SESSION TO FOLLOW

It Happened Here, a compelling new documentary from director Lisa F. Jackson and producer Marjorie Schwartz Nielsen, explores sexual assault on campuses through the personal testimonials of five survivors who transform their experiences into a springboard for change. In raw and intimate interviews, the students describe surviving sexual assault. The film follows their fight for accountability and change on campus and in federal court.

THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2016

4:15 PM - 6:00 PM

UNIVERSITY COMMONS

ROOM 168B

Refreshments will be served



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TAKE BACK the NIGHT



At least one out of every three women worldwide has been beaten, forced into sex or otherwise abused in her lifetime by a partner, relative, friend, stranger, employer, and/or colleague. Of these crimes, less than 50% are reported to the police.

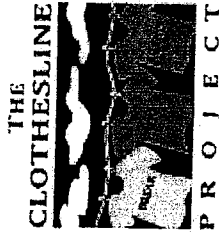
It's time to make a change.

April 19 Rally & Vigil @ 6pm in Zanfino Plaza
March begins @ 6:30pm

*"Survivors Sharing Stories" talkback @ 7pm in UC 211
Food will be served*

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

TAKE A STAND AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT



Decorate a T-shirt

Zanfino Plaza

(rain location: Multipurpose Room)

Tuesday, April 19th, 2016

12:30 PM — 2:00 PM

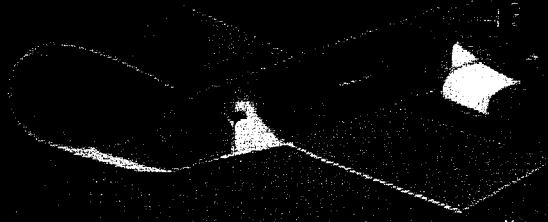


Take the pledge!

Co-sponsored by Campus Victim Services, The Women's Center, and The Campus Violence Prevention Program

Sexual Assault
Awareness Month

PREVENTION



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Survivor's Healing Group

Mondays at 6:00pm

Share & Connect

*Have you experienced dating abuse and/or
sexual assault?*

*Would you like to connect with other survivors in
your journey toward healing?*

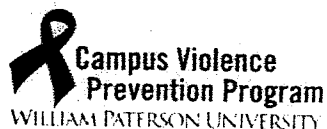
To join the group, please contact:

Campus Victim Services Coordinator

Theresa Bivaletz

973-720-2578

bivaletzt@wpunj.edu



November 8th, 2016

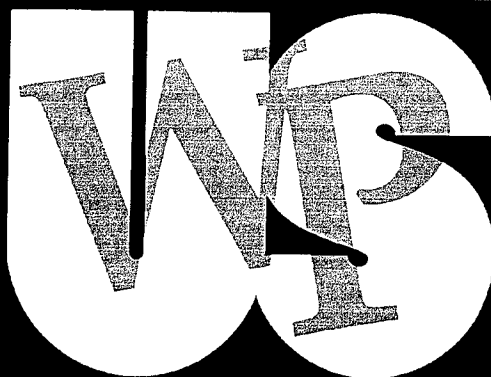
12:30PM - 2:00PM

Multi-Purpose Room

**It's On Us is a national campaign
creating change on our campuses.**

**Educate yourself on sexual assault
and why rape continues to happen.**

IT'S ON



ItsOnUs.org

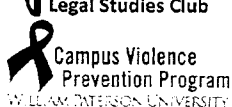
**Take the pledge to stop engaging in attitudes
that contribute to rape culture.**

Free giveaways for participants.

Food will be provided.

Funded by the Student Government Association and the Office of Student Development

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Also sponsored by SGA Student Life Committee, Yoga & Meditation Club, Residence Life and New Student Experiences

2016

Georgian Court University & Providence House Launch EMPOWER

**Intervention strategies to address sexual assault, domestic
abuse, dating violence and more**

Presented to the members of the
New Jersey Senate Higher Education Committee and members of
the Campus Sexual Assault Task Force

Monday, December 12, 2016

Good morning. I am Gail Towns, executive director of marketing and communications at Georgian Court University in Lakewood, N.J. I am joined today by Mary Petrow, Associate Service Area Director for Providence House Domestic Violence Services of Catholic Charities. Together, we represent part of the team behind EMPOWER, a \$299,000 federally funded grant program to create coordinated efforts that address sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.

The grant, awarded in October, represents the input of Georgian Court University student affairs and counseling experts, and the frontline experience of Providence House, one of GCU's longtime partners in raising awareness of these issues.

Additional information has been prepared for your review later, and I will take this time to briefly emphasize a few points. This grant program represents the input of our organizations and the full

cooperation of the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office, the Lakewood Police Department, and GCU's own security officers. Together, we are committed to:

- Establishing a broad campus and community engagement effort that focuses on prevention, and provides students with intervention strategies of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking.
- Coordinating and strengthening of our community response team with both external and internal partners (including Providence House and Lakewood police departments)
- Expanding and enhancing our victim services and advocacy through effective case management, counseling and advocacy.
- Enhancing programming to our students with coordination of internal campus resources such as the GCU counseling center, health center, residence life and student activities.
- Increasing and enhancing training for campus law enforcement to respond to sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking incidents on campus.

As presented to the U.S. Department of Justice in our grant proposal, EMPOWER will result in a strengthened Coordinated Community Response that ensures effective response, enforcement, and accountability; stronger campus-wide education, awareness, and prevention programs and training; additional victim and advocacy services through a Providence House counselor who will work on the GCU campus three days per week; and more.

We look forward to keeping you abreast of our progress and welcome any questions.

Georgian Court University EMPOWER Program Abstract

Georgian Court University (GCU) is private higher education institution located in Lakewood Township, Ocean County, New Jersey. Established in 1908, GCU offers 31 undergraduate and nine graduate degree programs. In fall 2015, GCU enrolled 2,122 students, including 1,528 undergraduate students and 594 graduate students, and 95% are New Jersey residents. After more than 100 years as a leading women's college, GCU transitioned to a fully co-educational institution in fall 2013. The student population consists of 76% female students and 24% male students. The co-ed transition brought many changes to the GCU campus, including a growing male population and the conversion of campus dormitories to co-ed. As a result of the co-ed transition, GCU is in particular need to expand its prevention and educational programming about sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

GCU requests \$299,829 over three years to support EMPOWER, GCU's Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Program. GCU will create a strengthened coordinated community response (CCR) to include external partnerships with the Lakewood Police Department and Providence House Domestic Violence Services and relevant internal departments of GCU. The GCU Office of Student Life and Campus Security will lead the project.

Primary activities:

- 1). Strengthen GCU's Coordinated Community Response with external and internal partners.
- 2). Hire a full-time Project Coordinator to coordinate campus/community engagement.
- 3). Expand GCU's mandatory prevention and education program about sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking for freshmen to include all incoming students, including transfers.

4). Increase the number of education and prevention programs and training offered to all students, including a bystander intervention program and ongoing prevention program for the entire campus community.

5). Expand victim services and advocacy by partnering with Providence House Domestic Violence Services to have a counselor on the GCU campus three days per week to provide counseling, case management, and advocacy services.

6). Develop strategies, with Providence House counselor, to better assist traditionally underserved population of LGBTQ students.

7). Increase training for campus law enforcement and disciplinary boards to respond effectively to sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking.

Outcomes:

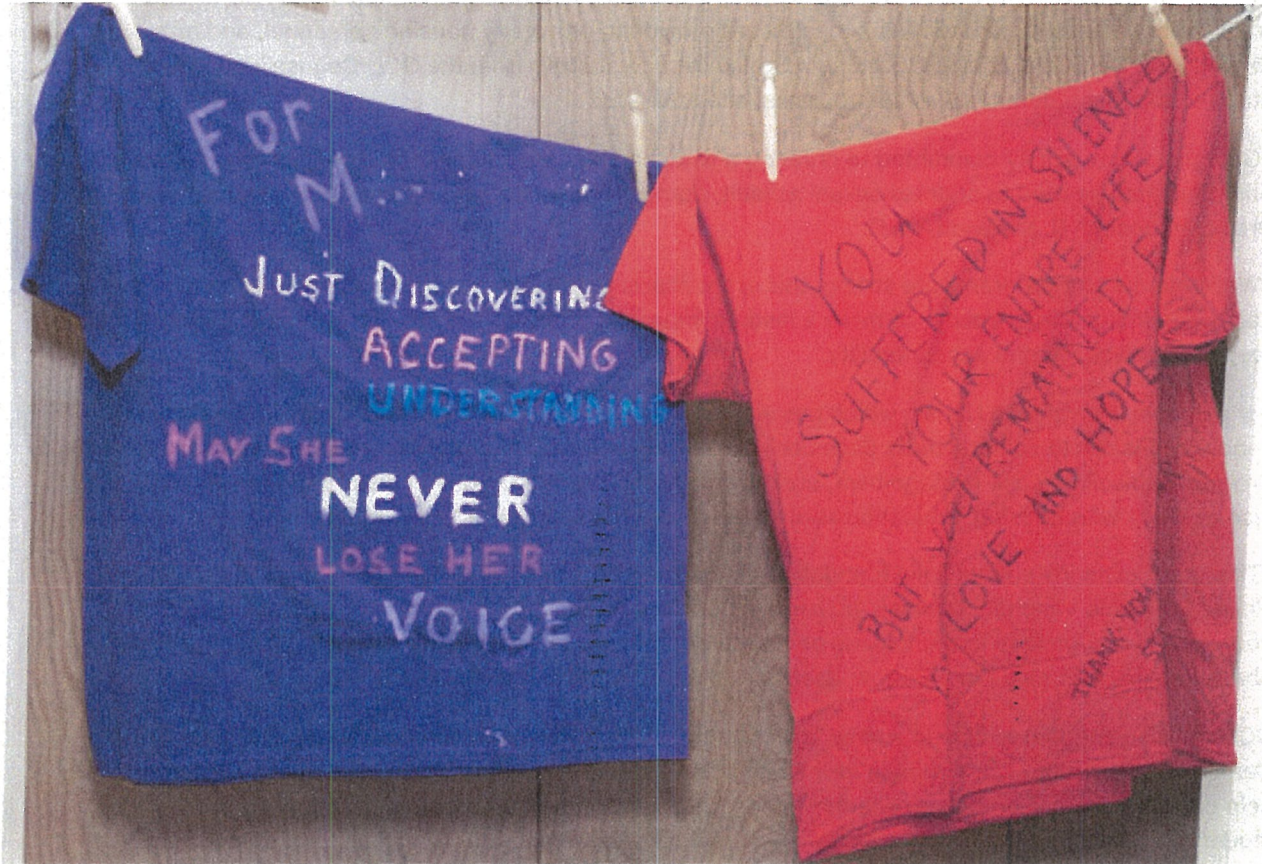
GCU will have a strengthened Coordinated Community Response that ensures effective response, enforcement, and accountability; campus-wide education, awareness, and prevention programs and training will be enhanced and strengthened; victim and advocacy services will be increased through a Providence House counselor who will work on the GCU campus three days per week to provide counseling, case management, and advocacy services; programs and services will be implemented to assist traditionally underserved population of LGBTQ; training for campus law enforcement and disciplinary boards will be enhanced and strengthened through two training sessions per academic year (fall & spring).

The service area is Lakewood Township, Ocean County, NJ. The program will serve the GCU campus community.

From: **gtowns** gtowns@georgian.edu
Subject: New Federal Grant to Help Georgian Court, Providence House Address Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault
Date: December 12, 2016 at 1:11 AM
To:
Bcc: Gail H. Towns gtowns@georgian.edu

New Federal Grant to Help Georgian Court, Providence House Address Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault

<http://georgian.edu/sexual-assault-prevention-grant/>



Each year on the Georgian Court campus, the "Clothesline Project" increases awareness of the impact of violence against women, celebrates women's strength, and provides women a chance to break the silence through messages written on T-shirts by victims and those who know them.

Three-Year Grant Will Support Range of Prevention and Intervention Programs

Lakewood, N.J., October 20, 2016—A new grant from the U.S. Department of Justice will allow Georgian Court University and several community partners to expand awareness and prevention programs related to sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking, and dating violence.

The \$299,829 grant, distributed over three years, will support EMPOWER, Georgian Court's sexual assault awareness and prevention programs. The grant also draws on commitments and participation from Providence House Domestic Violence Services, a division of Catholic Charities, and the Lakewood Police Department.

Under the grant, GCU, Providence House and the Lakewood Police Department will participate in the university's coordinated community response (CCR) meetings and training efforts.

The federal funding is managed through the Office of Violence Against Women and its Grants to Reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking on Campus. Nationally, the federal agency awarded 61 grants, including 45 to colleges and universities, to address sexual violence on campuses.

According to the Justice Department, the funds are intended to help organizations "deliver effective, comprehensive and coordinated strategies that help survivors heal; reduce campus sexual and domestic violence; and improve the institution's response to these crimes."

In addition, grant recipients are expected to offer a range of helpful services, including specialized training for campus security officers, healthcare providers, university housing personnel, and other first responders. On GCU's campus, participants also include staffers from the GCU Counseling Center, student affairs, student leadership programs, and athletics.

"Georgian Court is fully committed to creating a safe, campus environment, and to providing the training and education needed to address sexual assault, domestic violence, and other difficult issues," said GCU President Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D.

"While our current programs are strong, this grant allows GCU—along with Providence House and the Lakewood Police Department—to make a lasting, impactful difference in how we approach prevention and response, advocacy and accountability."

For example, Providence House, which has worked with GCU on collaborative projects in the past, will send a counselor to campus three days per week. While on campus, Providence House professionals will provide counseling, case management, and victim safety plans to anyone in need. Students in crisis will also get help with housing, education about abusive relationships, and legal options.

"This grant expands upon a solid foundation established between the GCU community and Providence House Domestic Violence Services, building in both a new level of prevention efforts and utilizing a coordinated response to intently focus on issues of domestic abuse, dating violence, stalking and sexual abuse on campus," said Mary Petrow, associate director for Providence House.

GCU will also conduct a climate survey, which is one of the national recommendations of the Clery Center, the nonprofit clearinghouse for campus crime statistics. Such climate surveys are intended to help colleges and universities gauge the "magnitude and nature of sexual victimization experienced by students," according to the Office on Violence Against Women and the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

In partnership with PHDVS and the local police department, GCU will expand its mandatory prevention and education programs—currently required for freshmen—to include all incoming students and transfer students. A bystander prevention program will be created, and two training sessions each year will be held for campus law enforcement and campus disciplinary boards.

Substantive work and ongoing contributions on behalf of the participating organizations underscore the importance of addressing violence issues.

"This partnership rises from the shared core values of Catholic Charities and GCU and will bring a trauma-informed approach to meeting the needs of the campus community in terms of services, education, and awareness," said Marlene Lao Collins, Executive Director, Catholic Charities Diocese of Trenton.

"We are proud to work in partnership on this important endeavor."

About Georgian Court University

Founded in 1908 and sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, Georgian Court University is Central and South Jersey's only Catholic university. GCU is a comprehensive, coeducational university with a strong liberal arts core and a historic special concern for women. As a forward-thinking university that supports diversity and academic excellence, Georgian Court expands possibility for more than 2,100 students of all faiths and backgrounds in 33 undergraduate majors and more than 10 graduate programs. In 2015, GCU was named #25 among MONEY® magazine's "Top 50 Colleges That Add the Most Value" and a Best Bang for the Buck School by Washington Monthly. GCU has also been recognized by The Economist and Colleges of Distinction and is a Military Friendly® School. The main campus is located in Lakewood, New Jersey, on the picturesque former George Jay Gould estate, a National Historic Landmark. Georgian Court, which is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, also serves students at other locations, such as GCU at Hazlet, and through multiple online certificate and degree programs.

**ADDITIONAL APPENDIX MATERIALS
SUBMITTED TO THE
SENATE HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

for the
December 12, 2016 Meeting

Submitted by Gail Towns, Executive Director, Marketing and Communications,
Georgian Court University:

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