2016 Title IX Sexual Misconduct and Safety Survey
Overview

✓ Summary of data from the Spring 2016 Sexual Misconduct and Safety Survey

✓ Recommended next steps in response to the data
Survey Goals

✓ estimate the incidence and prevalence of different forms of non-consensual sexual contact, harassment, stalking, and intimate partner violence;

✓ collect information on student views related to the climate surrounding sexual assault and misconduct; and

✓ assess student knowledge and evaluation of university resources and procedures when responding to instances of sexual assault and sexual misconduct.
• Survey developed and administered by EAB, a best-practice research firm
• Piloted at 33 institutions by EAB in 2015
• 34 institutions, including WMU, participated in 2016

No discernable differences in responses based on institutional type or size.
The majority of WMU survey respondents were heterosexual (86%), white (84%), and female (63%).

Most respondents were in their first four years of school.

Most respondents either live off campus (57%) or in a residence hall or on campus apartment (29%), with 2% living in Greek housing.

2,024 WMU respondents (12%)
Quick Take

Overall Campus Climate

- Most respondents have a positive perception of campus climate.
- Over half of survey respondents had someone make sexist remarks or jokes in their presence.
- Nearly half of respondents indicated that a student making a report would experience retaliation.

85% think faculty are genuinely concerned about their welfare.
Quick Take

Sexual Violence Experiences

• 10% (232) experienced at least 1 incident of sexual misconduct since the beginning of the school year
• 223 of those experienced someone fondling, kissing or rubbing private areas of their body or removed some of their clothes
• 120 said someone tried to sexually penetrate them and 99 said someone did sexually penetrate them

31% of female respondents experienced unwanted sexual contact prior to college
Quick Take

Prevention Training and Student Knowledge

• 75% of first year students received prevention training.
• Those who received training said it was useful in increasing their knowledge.
• 40% of respondents don’t know what resources are available.
• Less than 50% understand what WMU would do to address a sexual violence complaint.

79% are confident that WMU would administer formal procedures fairly.
• The majority of respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact were caught off guard by the perpetrator or the perpetrator ignored the respondents’ non-verbal cues or looks.

• The unwanted behavior was most commonly perpetrated by an acquaintance, peer or friend.

62% Were taken advantage of when they were incapacitated (e.g. too drunk, high, or asleep)
## Incident Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Off-campus residence</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On-campus residence</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bar, night club, dance club</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraternity</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other off-campus location</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quick Take

Reporting Incidents

- Respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact most commonly told a roommate or romantic partner.
- Most respondents received a positive response from those they told.
- 68% didn’t think the incident was serious enough to report.
- 53% wanted to forget that the incident had happened.
- 44% thought there was lack of proof that the incident happened.

96% did NOT use WMU’s formal procedures to report the incident.
Quick Take

15% have observed a situation that could have led to a sexual assault
Most respondents intervened by asking the person who appeared to be at risk if they needed help
36% stepped in and separated the people involved in the situation

Community Behaviors

91% of respondents said they would decide not to have sex if they were too drunk, compared to their perception that only 60% of their peers would do so.
A greater percentage of male respondents agreed/strongly agreed with most of the rape myth statements compared to female respondents.

46% of female respondents said that sexual misconduct was somewhat or definitely a problem, compared to one third of male respondents.

31% of respondents believe that sexual violence can happen because men can get carried away in a sexual situation once they’ve started.

49% believe that rape and sexual violence can happen unintentionally, especially if alcohol is involved.

Statements adapted from the Illinois Rape Myth Acceptance Scale.
## Next Steps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Results</th>
<th>Recommended Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Training and Student Knowledge</strong></td>
<td><strong>The WMU Sexual Misconduct and Safety Guide was distributed after the survey concluded. Expand the distribution of the electronic version of the Guide by sending it via email to all faculty, staff and students at least once a year.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 36% of survey respondents stated that they know the formal procedures to address complaints of sexual violence 75% of first years said yes</td>
<td>• Continue in person presentations to students, faculty and staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• 45% of survey respondents stated that they had not received sexual violence prevention information or training.</td>
<td>• As of September 2016, online training is available for all sophomore, junior, senior, transfer and graduate students. Training has been available to all faculty and staff for 10 years and has been required for all first year students for 3 years. It is recommended that the online training be continued.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Most respondents who received training thought it was useful</td>
<td>• Use social media to share quick facts, stats and insights about sexual misconduct on college campuses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Next Steps

## Survey Results

**Perpetrator Behavior**
- Of the 232 students who stated they experienced some form of sexual misconduct during that school year, 62% reported being taken advantage of while incapacitated (e.g., too drunk, high, asleep, or out of it).
- 54% of unwanted contact happened off-campus.

## Recommended Actions
- Reinforce messages about alcohol and sexual assault with students throughout their time here (current emphasis is on first-year students).
- Continue to work with local police agencies on notifying WMU when our student is involved in sexual violence. WMU DPS routinely notifies Institutional Equity of campus incidents.
- Ask fraternity/sorority houses and off-campus apartments to make the Sexual Misconduct and Safety Guide available in their office and common areas.
### Next Steps

**Survey Results**

**Reporting an Incident**

- Of the 232 students who stated they experienced some form of sexual misconduct during that school year, 60% told a roommate, friend or classmates.
- Only 4% used the formal procedures to report the incident to the University.

**Recommended Actions**

- Create a marketing campaign focused on identifying problem behaviors and reporting.
- Ask off-campus apartments and community locations to display items from the campaign.
- Evaluate feasibility of a confidential victim advocate role. This person would receive reports of sexual violence and provide assistance without reporting information about the victim’s identity to WMU Police or Institutional Equity. The advocate would encourage victims to self-report.
- Even if students are aware of the procedures, they will likely talk to a friend first. Expand bystander intervention training so we have a critical mass of students trained on how to help a friend.
- Invite student leaders in student organizations and athletics to become certified trainers and bring the program back to their group or team.
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