

Clarion University

Spring 2017 Title IX Campus Climate Survey – Executive Summary

Clarion University conducted its first Title IX Campus Climate Survey in the spring semester of 2017. A total of 664 students responded to the survey, an overall response rate of 12%. The Title IX Team reviewed the results during the summer of 2017 and the Title IX Team is holding a meeting with the Student Affairs Advisory Board for a discussion of the results.

General Results

Clarion University takes this data very seriously and is committed to creating a safe campus climate for all members. The results indicate three overall impressions. First, sexual harassment and sexual assault are issues some student respondents have experienced both before and after arriving at Clarion. Second, most student respondents believe Clarion responds well to reported incidents of sexual harassment and sexual assault. Third, while student respondents generally know how to report an incident, they don't believe many of the incidents are serious enough to report to the University.

Perceptions of Campus Climate and Harassment

- 95% of student respondents feel safe at Clarion University ([click here for more information](#))
- 83% of student respondents feel the University take reports seriously
- 43% of student respondents had someone make sexist remarks or jokes in their presence.

Sexual Violence Prevention Training and Student Knowledge

- 72% of first-year respondents received prevention training. The number of respondents receiving training in subsequent years declined.
- Most respondents who received training thought it was useful in increasing their knowledge.
- 61% of student respondents understand what the school would do to address a sexual violence complaint.

Sexual Assault

- Over one quarter of female respondents experienced unwanted sexual contact prior to college.
- 8% of respondents experienced at least one incident of sexual misconduct at least one time since the beginning of the school year.

- 40% of the perpetrators in these instances were “friends” of the respondent.
- 40% of the instances involved the respondent being taken advantage of when they were incapacitated
- 4% of survey respondents indicated experiencing some form of intimate partner violence.

Knowledge of Process and Reporting an Incident

- Respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact most commonly told a roommate, friend, or classmate about the incident.
- 5% of respondents who experienced an incident did not report the incident to the University.
- 76% of the respondents did not think the incident was serious enough to report.

For more detailed survey results, please contact Dr. Susanne Fenske, Vice President for Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator. Sfenske@clarion.edu

Next Steps

While Clarion University continually seeks to update and improve its programming on these topics and its response to reports, these results point to two specific actions.

First, Clarion University will work to instill the importance of bystander intervention when training students at all stages of their education. Since such a high number of respondents are telling their peers about the incidents, but not reporting them to the University, we must educate everyone on the importance to reporting.

Second, we must continue to work on training students that any of this behavior is not acceptable and should not be tolerated. The number of students who do not report the incidents because they don’t feel it is serious enough must not be overlooked on our part. Students need to understand they should not be made to feel this way and the University will take their complaints seriously.

Third, we must continue to take actions to address the issue and pattern of unhealthy relationships with our students. Steps have been taken to form a student development series which addresses a variety of issues, and the Division of Student Affairs is also forming a Student Advisory Board in an effort to garner more information from students regarding ways to address these issues.

Fourth, additional concerns are raised regarding the link between these cases and students who are incapacitated. This points to a need for more training for students on what incapacitation physically looks like and also around the issue of consent.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Susanne Fenske, Ph.D.
Vice President for Student Affairs
Title IX Coordinator
sfenske@clarion.edu

For further information regarding our Title IX Prevention and Education measures, please click [here](#).