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Administration & Finance

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Sonoma State University

2020-2021 Title IX Annual Report

Compiled by the Office for the Prevention of Harassment & Discrimination

Introduction

Sonoma State University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment in which all persons who live, work and learn in our campus community can be free of all forms of sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, and sexual harassment (“sexual violence”).¹ Sexual violence threatens the emotional, physical and psychological well-being of our students, staff and faculty and endangers the safety of our community. Sexual violence impacts our students’ ability to feel safe on our campus and to achieve their greatest potential in the classroom.

This annual report provides information about reports of sexual violence, brought to the attention of the Office for the Prevention of Harassment & Discrimination (OPHD), for the reporting period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, and the actions taken to address these complaints.

This report is intended to raise awareness of sexual violence that occurs in our campus community. Our hope is that increased awareness will encourage greater participation in programs that prevent sexual violence. We are focused on highlighting reporting options and resources available to support survivors. We are emphasizing that the University does not tolerate any form of sexual violence and encourages individuals to seek services if they have experienced sexual violence.

Privacy is of the utmost importance and, therefore, this report does not contain identifying information about specific cases, in order to protect the privacy of all individuals involved. Because of privacy obligations, the report cannot fully convey the variety and complexity of circumstances of each incident. The report includes complaints of sexual violence committed by or against a member of our campus community, independent of criminal complaints and geographic location. One other point of clarification is the report includes incidents that occurred outside the reporting period, but were *reported* during the reporting period.

¹ Sexual misconduct, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking are defined in Executive Orders 1096 & 1097. While sexual misconduct is a form of sexual harassment, sexual harassment is categorized as reports where no physical touching was involved (i.e., verbal harassment, unsolicited sexual advances, etc.)

Policies

The Office for the Prevention of Harassment and Discrimination, OPHD (formerly known as Title IX Services), is a neutral resource for students, employees, and others to report concerns about sexual violence to the administration and to have those concerns addressed. OPHD continues to oversee all reports and procedures regarding Title IX regulations. The OPHD webpage can be found at:

<http://www.ophd.sonoma.edu>

The following are CSU policies addressing sexual violence in effect during the reporting period. They can be found at:

Executive Order 1095, revised June 23, 2015 –

<https://calstate.policystat.com/policy/6741651/latest/>

Executive Order 1096, revised August 14, 2020

<https://calstate.policystat.com/policy/8453514/latest/>

Executive Order 1097, revised August 14, 2020

<https://calstate.policystat.com/policy/10454581/latest/>

Reported Policy Violations

OPHD responds to reports of sexual violence. In some circumstances, the report of sexual violence may follow the complaint procedures set forth in the Executive Orders 1096 or 1097. When this occurs, OPHD investigates the complaint and reaches a determination as to whether or not a Preponderance of the Evidence² reflects that the respondent violated Executive Orders 1096 or 1097. Where a violation is found, the finding is referred to the applicable disciplinary process.

Executive Orders 1096 and 1097 include an option to resolve a concern of possible sexual violence without an investigation. The cases that were resolved by early resolutions are included in this report.

Not all reports of possible sexual violence are made by someone seeking to use the complaint or resolution procedures. The Title IX office also responded to reports where the information is insufficient to open an investigation. Circumstances may include:

- persons who report incidents to police, but not to administration, and request that their identity be kept confidential;
- persons who report incidents but decline or are unable to identify any perpetrator;
- incidents where the person reporting sexual violence requests their identity not be disclosed in any investigation;
- incidents in which the reporting person requests that no investigation be opened and;
- incidents where the complainant does not respond to outreach attempts.

When confidentiality is requested or the individual does not want to pursue an investigation, the individual is informed that the University's response may be limited. OPHD provides support and resources in those circumstances.

OPHD evaluates a confidentiality request against its responsibility to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all. If the request is honored, even if the campus cannot take

² Preponderance of the Evidence is defined in Executive Orders 1096 & 1097 as "...that the evidence on one side outweighs, preponderates over, or is more than, the evidence on the other side..."

disciplinary action, OPHD pursues other steps to limit the effects of any sexual violence and prevent recurrence.

The campus also receives reports of sexual violence where the reported perpetrator is not affiliated with the campus. OPHD provides support and resources in those circumstances.

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Campus

Sonoma State University

Title IX Coordinator's Name

Denise Oldham

Title IX Coordinator's E-Mail

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Title IX Coordinator's Contact Number

707-664-4140

The total number of pending Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault³, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking cases as of July 1, 2020.

1 (since resolved)

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking reports received during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021).

Total	22
Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault	19
Dating and Domestic Violence	3
Stalking	0

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking reports received during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) in which a Student is the Respondent.

³ Data collected under "Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault" include reported incidents of Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, and Sexual Assault, [defined here](#) and in the CSU Executive Orders linked above. As such, these figures include reported incidents where there was no (or limited) physical contact between the parties.

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Total	6
Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault	6
Dating/Domestic Violence	0
Stalking	0

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking reports received during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) in which an Employee is the Respondent.

Total	6
Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault	6
Dating/Domestic Violence	0
Stalking	0

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking reports received during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) in which a Third Party is the Respondent.

Total	4
Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault	3
Dating/Domestic Violence	1
Stalking	0

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking reports received during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) in which the Respondent is an Unknown or Unidentified Individual.

Total	6
Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault	4
Dating/Domestic Violence	2
Stalking	0

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking reports investigated (with a finding - Violation or No Violation) during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021).

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Total	3
Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault	3
Dating/Domestic Violence	0
Stalking	0

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault reports that were resolved without investigation and/or a finding during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021). Please provide a total and then indicate the number of reports for each type of outcome.

Total	16
Informal Resolution prior to investigation commencing	0
Informal Resolution while investigation was in process, or after investigation completed (prior to a finding being made)	0
Complainant requested resources and/or supportive measures only	4
Complainant did not respond to outreach and insufficient information to move forward	6
Complainant elected to remain confidential so unable to send outreach	4
Other Outcome (please specify and provide number)	1 Complainant declined to move forward after meeting with OPHD
Other Outcome (please specify and provide number)	1 Complainant disclosed during an online training and by the time the investigator reviewed the report, they were no longer a student

The number of Dating and Domestic Violence reports that were resolved without investigation and/or a finding during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021). Please provide a total and then indicate the number of reports for each type of outcome.

Total	3
Informal Resolution prior to investigation commencing	0
Informal Resolution while investigation was in process, or after investigation was completed (prior to a finding being made)	0
Complainant requested resources and/or supportive measures only	1
Complainant did not respond to outreach and insufficient information to move forward	0
Complainant elected to remain confidential so unable to send outreach	0
Other Outcome (please specify and provide number)	2 Complainant declined to move forward after meeting with OPHD

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The number of Stalking reports that were resolved without investigation and/or a finding during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021). Please provide a total and then indicate the number of reports for each type of outcome.

Total 0

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault investigations during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) in which the Respondent was held responsible. Please provide a total and then indicate the number of cases for each type of discipline. For combination forms of discipline (e.g., Suspension of less than one year and Educational training) or forms of discipline not listed, please use the "Other" boxes, and specify the form or forms of discipline and a number.

Total 1
Other (please specify and provide number) Respondent was a staff who left the University during the investigation

The number of Dating and Domestic Violence investigations during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) in which the Respondent was held responsible. Please provide a total and then indicate the number of cases for each type of discipline. For combination forms of discipline (e.g., Suspension of less than one year and Educational training) or forms of discipline not listed, please use the "Other" boxes, and specify the form or forms of discipline and a number.

Total N/A

The number of Stalking investigations during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) in which the Respondent was held responsible. Please provide a total and then indicate the number of cases for each type of discipline. For combination forms of discipline (e.g., Suspension of less than one year and Educational training) or forms of discipline not listed, please use the "Other" boxes, and specify the form or forms of discipline and a number.

Total N/A

The number of Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking investigations during the reporting period (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021) in which the evidence was found insufficient to hold the Respondent responsible.

Total 1
Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault 1
Dating/Domestic Violence 0
Stalking 0

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The total number of pending Sexual Misconduct/Sexual Assault, Dating and Domestic Violence, and Stalking cases as of end of June 30, 2021.

1 investigation: sexual misconduct/sexual assault