

Sexual Assault and Prevention Task Force Meeting
October 3, 2014

Members Present:

Ginger Ambler
Kiersten Boyce
Deb Cheesebro
Carla Costello
Jodi Fisler
Eric Garrison
Alex Greenspan
Susan Grover
Peel Hawthorne
Donna Haygood-Jackson
Anna Martin
Jenny Putzi
Mallory Tucker

Absent:

David Dessler
Dave Gilbert
Chon Glover
Rowan Lockwood
Deb Love
Kelly Petrey
Marjorie Thomas
Cynthia Ward

- I. Introduction of New Members:
 - a. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m.
 - b. Ambler welcomed two new members of the task force, Jodi Fisler and Jenny Putzi.
- II. Blackboard Site
 - a. Ambler and Costello provided an update on the Task Force Blackboard site.
 - b. Costello will send out weekly emails to the Task Force with links to news stories and other pertinent information added to the site.
 - c. Ambler invited Task Force members to submit articles and other items to Costello for inclusion on the site.
- III. Task Force Website
 - a. Ambler and Costello discussed their initial ideas about information the website should contain and asked for feedback and input from the task force.
 - b. Initial information includes;
 - i. Charges to the task force and subcommittees
 - ii. Task Force contact information
 - iii. Subcommittee information
 - iv. Links to other campus resources

- v. Links to external resources
- vi. Feedback form-anonymous submissions with a prompt if you want to talk further you can contact the task force
- vii. Frequently Asked Questions
- viii. Office Hours
- ix. Campus Events/Happenings

IV. Subcommittee Assignments/Next Steps for Subcommittees

- a. Ambler presented the list of subcommittees and was pleased that everyone was able to get their first choice.
- b. Ambler charged the Subcommittee chairs to convene their first meeting.
- c. Subcommittee information should be shared with Costello for posting on the Blackboard site and website.
- d. Members asked if they could recruit other employees to serve on the task force, both officially and as volunteers. Ambler said yes, she could officially appoint someone to a subcommittee.
- e. Procedures for subcommittees to gather data were also discussed. Focus groups and interviews are ok. However, Fisler noted that if there is any chance that the results may be shared outside William & Mary, we need Protection of Human Subjects approval to gather data. Fisler will submit on behalf of the Task Force.
- f. The question arose about the distinction between prevention and education and training for faculty and staff as separate subcommittee. Ambler noted that there would be a good amount of crossover among the subcommittees. It was determined that the recommendations of prevention and education would focus on determining the best method of delivering information; what is going to hit the heart of the issue; and why do they need to know this. It was determined that training for faculty and staff recommendations would focus on determining the people on campus who need to be trained; how do we get them to focus on this; do we mandate training and how do we regulate the training.

V. The Haven

- a. Haygood-Jackson provided an update on the opening of the Haven, our inclusive gathering space of support.
- b. The Haven will provide confidential education, advocacy and acceptance for anyone seeking guidance on relational abuse.
- c. The Haven will open on October 24. There will be a grand opening celebration from 3:00-6:00 p.m. The room is located in the Campus Center Atrium right behind the ID office.

VI. The Work of Student Representatives

- a. Alex and Mallory would like input from the Task Force on how students can serve the group better.
- b. Alex and Mallory are interested in holding office hours so students can come and speak directly to them as members of the task force.
- c. There was discussion about reaching out to leaders of student organizations as well, and collaborating with the Student Assembly for outreach
- d. It was stressed that students want to know William & Mary is doing something about the issue. Important to be transparent.

- VII. Proposed Changes to the Student Handbook
 - a. Boyce discussed the revision of the sexual misconduct policy and procedure in the Student Handbook.
 - b. The procedure we had was 3 years old and even though it was Title IX compliant, changes were needed.
 - c. Key revisions include:
 - i. Information gathering
 - ii. Administrative resolution
 - iii. Appeals process
 - iv. Equity in what is provided to both parties (advisors, for example)
 - d. The proposed changes will come out soon and there will be 3 weeks for the W&M community to provide feedback.
- VIII. National Sexual Misconduct Survey
 - a. Fislser discussed the sexual misconduct survey distributed to students on Monday, October 6.
 - b. The survey will be active for 6 weeks.
 - c. Responses are anonymous.
- IX. Next Meeting: November 7, 4:00 p.m. Swem Board Room
- X. Ambler adjourned the meeting at 5:38 p.m.