COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Blackburn Center
24-Hour Hotline:
1-888-832-2272 or 724-836-1122
www.blackburncenter.org

Excela Health Westmoreland Hospital Emergency Room
724-832-4000

State Police
911

National Sexual Assault Hotline (RAINN)
Get Help 24/7: 800-656-HOPE (4673)

Westmoreland County 24-Hour Crisis Hotline
800-836-6010

Westmoreland County Health Department
724-832-5315
GUIDE FOR ALUMNI/MENTORS
WHO LEARN OF ALLEGED SEXUAL
MISCONDUCT OR VIOLENCE
INVOLVING A STUDENT

The University is committed to maintaining an educational environment free from sexual discrimination. Title IX is a federal law which governs how the University addresses any allegations of sexual violence or misconduct occurring both on and off campus, when the conduct impacts the educational environment. The University is required to take immediate and appropriate steps to investigate what happened, and to resolve the matter promptly and equitably. This guide provides advice on what to do when you learn of alleged sexual misconduct or violence involving a student.

Under Title IX, you are considered a “responsible employee.” As a result, when you learn of alleged sexual violence or misconduct, you are required to take specific actions.
After reporting the incident(s) to the Title IX Liaison, what ongoing responsibilities do you have?

1. You should allow the investigatory process to proceed in the Title IX office, with the police, and/or in Judicial Affairs. You will have limited involvement in those processes, but could be called as a witness.
2. Watch for signs of any problems. Be alert for retaliation which is prohibited.
3. Immediate interim measures, such as those having the effect of separating the alleged perpetrator and victim, may be appropriate. Consult with Leigh Hoffman x69954 as soon as possible regarding interim measures. If interim measures are in place, enforce them.
4. Keep allegations as confidential as possible (no office chatting).
5. Listen carefully and treat the student fairly and respectfully.
6. Be mindful of the rights of all parties.
7. Do not assume guilt, innocence or take sides.
8. Try to maintain an academic environment free from discrimination.

What should you do when faced with an allegation that a member of the University community has been a victim of sexual violence?

1. You are required to promptly contact the campus Title IX Liaison, Mary Anne Koleny (724) 836-9902 or at msk59@pitt.edu.
2. Early in the conversation, explain that you are obligated to report the incident to the Title IX Office and that you cannot maintain complete confidentiality, but information will be kept as private as possible.
3. If the victim wants to maintain complete confidentiality, direct the victim to confidential resources on campus, such as Gayle Pamerleau in the Counseling Center (217 CH) at 724-836-9870 or Pam Freger in the Health Center (216 CH) at 724-836-9947.
4. If the victim wants to tell you what happened, but also wants to maintain complete confidentiality, you should tell the victim that the University will consider the request, but that you cannot guarantee that the University will be able to honor the request.
5. If the student proceeds, listen empathetically. Encourage, but do not pressure the student to seek help, counseling or medical assistance if appropriate, and/or to contact the Title IX Office (Mary Anne Koleny x69902).
6. In cases when the report immediately follows an incident, suggest to the student that if he/she chooses to press charges in the future, then he/she should consider preserving clothing and/or bedding in a paper (not plastic) bag and to have a rape kit exam done at the hospital.
Continued —

What should you do when faced with an allegation that a member of the University community has been a victim of sexual violence?

7. Encourage the victim to contact Campus Police (x69865) or State Police (724-832-3288) so that the situation can be addressed and prevented in the future.
8. Ask about any immediate needs (classes, medical) of the student.
9. Here are some resources to provide the student:
   - http://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/share
   - http://www.share.pitt.edu
   - http://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/student-resources/counseling-services
   - http://www.greensburg.pitt.edu/share/gbgcc
10. After the student leaves your office, call the Title IX Liaison (Mary Anne Koleny x69902).
11. Do not try to mediate or resolve the issue yourself. Your job is not to investigate the incident.

Should you learn of alleged sexual violence or misconduct relating to a faculty or staff member, you are also obligated to inform the Title IX Liaison, Mary Anne Koleny at 724-836-9902 or msk59@pitt.edu.

To whom can you turn to in administration to help you through the process?

1. The campus Title IX Liaison, Mary Anne Koleny at 724-836-9902 or msk59@pitt.edu. Suggest contacting her immediately following an incident.
2. Greensburg campus police, if the victim consents (724-836-9865).
4. The University of Pittsburgh’s Title IX Coordinator on the Pittsburgh campus—Katie Pope 412-648-7860.