



# Brandeis University

## **Task Force for Sexual Assault Response, Services and Prevention**

### **Meeting Minutes, March 9, 2017**

#### **Agenda items:**

1. Review of Reporting Data
2. Discussion of Task Force Structure
3. Next Steps with Prevention Efforts
4. Climate Survey Update

Sheryl Sousa reviewed all student-related reports that have come through the administrative process for allegations of sexual misconduct for the last three academic years. The data was presented in such a way as to not provide identifiable information on specific students. It was recommended that Sheryl Sousa and Linda Shinomoto work on finalizing a summary report for all student and faculty/staff reports and that reporting data should be released for 2015-2016 by the end of this academic year, with the acknowledgement that new data will be released annually. Therefore, 2016-2017 data would be released during the Fall of 2017.

Regarding Task Force structure, Kim Godsoe reviewed the initial charge of the Task Force when it was formed in Fall of 2014, specifically, to review policies, reporting and adjudication mechanisms, and training models. The committee provided feedback and discussed ideas for ways to improve how the committee accomplishes its work. It was recommended that: the Task Force as a whole should come together once a semester to hear reports from subcommittees; committee members should be divided into subcommittees who focus on a specific topic and meet more frequently; and initially suggested topics for subcommittees included: prevention, education & training, and raising awareness/communications. The Task Force should continue to review proposed changes to *Rights and Responsibilities* annually.

In other business, Sheryl Sousa updated the committee regarding the next administration of the Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Misconduct. Based on feedback from researchers at UNH and the team administering the AAU's survey, which recommends that a four-year cycle is best practice, the next administration of the Climate Survey is tentatively planned for Spring of 2019.

While it was initially proposed to administer the survey every two years, however, new information suggests that it is best to administer the survey on a four-year cycle.



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The tentative agenda for the next meeting includes prevention effort updates and proposed updates to *Rights and Responsibilities*.