Information on Title IX Rights

Title IX is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. It grants students, staff, and faculty of all gender identities rights and options if they experience sexual assault, dating violence, stalking, or gender-based harassment during their time at HSU.

*TITLE IX IS CSU POLICY. It is not the same thing as filing a report with law enforcement, and the consequences differ (expulsion v. conviction). Reporting through the CSU does not establish a lawful restraining order or assume legal due process. DUE PROCESS AT THE CSU IS SEPARATE FROM UNITED STATES LEGAL DUE PROCESS. You can find more information about this in HSU’s student code of conduct.

Three things to know about your Title IX rights:

1) Students can receive information about and have access to 24-hr survivor support. The Campus Advocate Team (CAT) is designed to provide this support to HSU’s campus community. CAT can help students secure accommodations on campus based on their needs (this can include changing residence halls or classes, making up classwork, accessing counseling, and establishing a no-contact directive).

2) Students have the option to file a campus complaint with the Dean of Students and/or file a police report. Filing a report at the CSU level is not the same as filing a report to local law enforcement. CAT can assist someone with any of these processes.

3) Title IX requires HSU staff, faculty, and student employees to report to the Dean of Students/Title IX Coordinator. If you DO want to talk to someone but are worried about a required report being made, CAT is a confidential resource and has no reporting obligations.

Defining Sexual Violence

**Sexual Assault:** Any physical sexual act(s) committed without consent through the use of force, fear, coercion, threats, intoxication (by alcohol or other drugs), unconsciousness, or by taking advantage of someone’s mental development or physical disability, or abuse of authority.

**Dating/Domestic Violence:** Abusive behaviors committed by someone a person is or was dating, seeing, hooking up with, or in a relationship with. This may include physical, verbal, mental, emotional, sexual, financial, or other forms of harm.

**Stalking:** Repeated or obsessive unwanted attention that makes one feel afraid, uncomfortable, harassed or in danger. This can include someone repeatedly contacting a person, following them, monitoring their actions or where they go, or threatening them, including through use of social media.

**Sexual Harassment:** Includes unwelcome sexual advances or requests for sexual favors, indecent exposure, as well as other hostile behavior of a sexual nature, which can be verbal, nonverbal, or physical. Sexual harassment also includes hostile behavior based on sex or gender stereotypes, or one’s sexual identity, even if that behavior is not explicitly sexual.
**Accessing Services**

- **Campus Advocate Team**
  24 hour hotline: 707-445-2881
- **HSU’s Sexual Response Website**
  www.humboldt.edu/stoprape
- **Counseling/Psych Services**
  707-826-3236
  www.humboldt.edu/counseling
- **Student Health Center**
  707-826-3146
  www.humboldt.edu/health
- **University Police Dept.**
  707-826-5555
  www.humboldt.edu/police
- **Women’s Resource Center**
  707-826-4216
  www.Humboldt.edu/hsuwomen
- **Title IX Coordinator**
  707-826-3385
  www.humboldt.edu/deanofstudents
- **HSU Student Legal Lounge**
  *Please email us with any legal questions/inquiries- we are here to help you find answers and get connected with professionals who can help!*

  hsustudentlegallounge@gmail.com

**Reporting an Assault**

While there are many reasons why a victim of sexual violence (or misconduct) may decide not to report an incident (due to the fact that in many instances of sexual assault, the victim has some sort of relationship with the perpetrator), the SLL feels that it is important for survivors of sexual assault to understand their options in reporting an incident:

- **If you are reporting an incident through the CSU, (i.e. to your Title IX Coordinator) you are not necessarily reporting to local law enforcement. This may be important to distinguish if you desire to seek retribution or conviction of your perpetrator.**

- **If you are reporting an incident to the North Coast Rape Crisis Team, they can help to determine if you would like to pursue legal action via local law enforcement or if you would like to pursue academic action via the CSU, (or both) and show your options in moving forward.**

- **If you report an incident to local law enforcement, you are beginning the stages of 'pressing charges' against your perpetrator. This process will most likely involve more invasive elements such as making a formal statement, seeing a physician, and seeking evidence in an attempt to prosecute.**

**Tips for Being a Supportive Ally**

1 in 3 women, and 1 in 6 men are sexually assaulted in their lifetime.

Sexual violence, and our attitudes toward addressing sexual trauma, have an effect on society as a whole. Both men and women are sexually assaulted; and it is important to keep this in mind in acting as a supportive ally to a victim of sexualized violence. When someone opens up to you about their experience of sexual trauma:

- Let them know you care
- Be willing to listen without giving advice or telling them what to do (i.e. how they should react, how they should move forward)
- Believe what they tell you
- Reassure them that they are not to blame
- Don’t pressure them to report or ask them for more details - respect their privacy and needs
- Provide information about resources

REMEMBER - That you are not alone in supporting this individual. There are resources, and professionals who are trained to help a victim of sexualized violence.

YOU MAY BE AN ALLY TO SOMEONE AND STILL NEED SUPPORT IN DEALING WITH THIS, YOURSELF.