

**Vanderbilt University 2015 Campus Climate Survey
Recommendations from the Provost's Task Force on Sexual Violence
January 26, 2016**

Vanderbilt University is committed to creating a safe environment for the entire campus community. Based on a review of the results of the Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault, the Provost's Task Force on Sexual Assault (PTFSA) has developed the following recommendations.

The PTFSA recommends that the Title IX coordinator make further efforts to increase awareness among students, faculty, and staff of the resources on campus that are available to those affected by sexual misconduct, particularly the Project Safe Center for Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response, and of the services they provide.

Additionally, we recommend that faculty and staff, in particular academic advisers, receive additional training, including information on the resources and services available to both complainants and respondents. In addition, we recommend enhancing the existing programming for faculty and staff and considering whether to provide targeted situation-based programming, for example.

We recommend that the Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, and Disability Services Department (EAD) endeavor to make the process for reporting, investigation, and adjudication of sexual misconduct complaints more transparent, and also clarify what constitutes "formal procedures." We also recommend that EAD continue to note areas where the process can be enhanced or simplified.

Next, we recommend that the University increase programming and awareness campaigns for those who have experienced sexual misconduct prior to attending Vanderbilt. For example, the University should enhance transition planning to connect individuals who have experienced sexual misconduct prior to Vanderbilt with resources, both on and off-campus. Additional training should be offered in conjunction with existing programming to increase awareness and understanding of available resources.

We also recommend increasing and enhancing programming facilitated by the Project Safe Center. Project Safe has added a workshop on recognizing warning signs and preventing the escalation of dating violence to its programmatic offerings; other similar programs should be developed. The PTFSA recommends that Project Safe continue to increase the number of bystander intervention trainings for students, faculty, and staff and increase the number of trainings and programs on understanding effective consent and setting boundaries within intimate relationships.

We recommend that Project Safe and EAD increase programming and education on unwanted sexual contact.

The PTFSA recommends that Vanderbilt continue to prioritize student safety by publicizing the SafeVU application, a mobile safety application for iOS and Android smartphones, through a targeted email campaign to faculty, staff, and students. SafeVU provides telephone numbers for key safety resources on campus, including the Project Safe Center.

It is the recommendation of the PTFSA that Vanderbilt University continue to assess the campus climate on sexual misconduct by conducting further campus climate surveys in the future. Due to the time needed to adequately distribute a survey, analyze results, and implement new and enhanced measures, PTFSA recommends conducting a campus climate survey every two or three years. Because the shorter survey in this pilot had a higher response rate, the PTFSA recommends using a shorter survey that combines the best elements of both surveys. Attention should be given to defining or clarifying any unclear terms.

The PTFSA recommends that Vanderbilt University continue to review and enhance its policies, practices, and processes relating to sexual misconduct at least once a year.

These recommendations are intended to assist the University in creating a safer campus for all members of the Vanderbilt community.