

Minutes from Title IX Advisory Meeting on 10.22.2020

9:00 AM: Purpose of Meeting

Sandy Chung: Introduces the purpose of the Title IX Advisory meeting, overview of meeting and how notes will be taken (Emma Ahern will be taking minutes via type). Sandy Chung also explains that meeting was not recorded to protect identities and allow people to feel comfortable speaking. Defines purpose of meeting/committee to allow the community to hear the work Title IX does, to participate in change and be part of the community. Sandy Chung asks that participants introduce themselves, including their role at UP, why they are participating in the committee and a fun fact about themselves (if they so choose).

9:05 AM: Introductions

Whole participant group – including Title IX team, Title IX Advisory Committee members, SASA leadership and members, students, community leadership, campus ministry (25 people total) introduce themselves one by one. Some reasons for involvement in the committee included: supporting survivors, education, building community care and safety, increasing LGBTQIA+ representation, addressing systemic causes for sexual violence and harassment, risk reduction, balancing Catholicism with Title IX goals, raising awareness and creating positive change.

9:39 AM: Change Statement

Sandy Chung: Makes statement on encouraging collective support and working together towards positive change at UP. Affirms that the presence of everyone in this meeting indicated that all parties present want to work towards change at UP.

9:40 AM: Consent Overview

Sandy Chung: Provides an overview of upcoming athletics trainings for consent and awareness, which will be done with all athletics teams. Sandy Chung also provides overview on Consent policies and definition of consent, including that it is active, ongoing and willing.

Sandy Chung asks the group if consent has to be verbally given.

Staff Member: Not sure but they would hope words would be involved.

Sandy Chung: States that words are ideal, but consent can be given non-verbally. This is included in campus policies (Life on the Bluff). Sandy states that Title IX team is gathering examples in media of consent to show at future meetings.

Sandy Chung asks is an absence of a no is a yes.

Group: Shakes heads "no"

Sandy Chung: Sandy asks if consenting to kissing automatically means consenting to other activity.

Group: Shakes heads "no"

Sandy Chung: States that while consent education is routine, it must be done each year to address inequity in prior education in this area for each incoming class. Sandy states that consent education is about helping each person make choices with their own body. Sandy states that there have even been complaints or criticisms regarding consent education in the past from parents and other parties, but that it is necessary for campus.

Sandy Chung: Asks if a prior relationship automatically means consent.

Group: Shakes heads "no"

Sandy Chung: Asks if there is consent when there is coercion.

Group: Shakes heads "no"

Sandy Chung: Asks if there is consent when someone is asleep.

Group: Shakes heads "no"

Sandy Chung: Asks if a student give consent if they are involved with a teacher.

Group: Shakes heads "no"

Sandy Chung: States no. There are institutions who allow it under different consent policy. However, UP follows policies that account for power differentials between parties.

Sandy Chung: Asks if minors can give consent.

Group: Shakes heads "no"

Sandy Chung: No, minors cannot consent. Even when they knowingly consent to something, it technically isn't consent due to the power differential caused by being under the age of 18.

Sandy Chung: Asks if someone can give consent if they are incapacitated or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Group: Shakes heads "no"

Sandy Chung: States that this policy field can be very difficult to navigate due to differences in affectedness, incapacitation levels or other factors that make it difficult to determine what conduct students knowingly or unknowingly engaged in. Sandy Chung explains the related policies at UP and how this relates back to Ups consent policies. Sandy Chung explains the "reasonable" standard for information gathering, which is listed in Life on the Bluff, including evidentiary standards used. Sandy Chung states again that asking for consent is vitally important to UP, the committee and Title IX.

9:55 AM: Sub-Committees

Sandy Chung: Chung and Title IX plan to start three committees: cultural change and education committee, student advocacy program committee and non-UP confidential resource program committee. Cultural change and education committee is intended for students to be further involved in advocacy, getting information/resources out to campus and being part of campus change. Student advocacy program committee is designed to help build a student-driven advocate program. Emma Ahern is contact person for these two committees. A new contact person will be established for cultural change committee when Campus Wellness position is refilled. Non-UP confidential resource program committee is designed to address student desire for an off-campus resource that is not affiliated with UP. Sandy Chung encourages people to get involved in these committees and to inform others who may be interested. Sandy Chung states that Emma Ahern wrote a draft piece for The Beacon on her student advocacy experience and advises people to read it to get an understanding of student advocacy. Sandy Chung asks students to reach out if they are interested.

Student leadership of SASA: States that SASA week of action is in October and people are encouraged to be involved. SASA will be posting further information shortly as they make plans for moving forward. SASA leadership offers to spread information about these committees to other students to generate interest.

Meg Farra: States that Title IX has an Instagram account and offers the platform to work with SASA on awareness as the move through week of action.

Sandy Chung: Thanks participants for their participation and states that all look forward to the next meeting.

10:05 : Meeting ends