



Student Government Resolution 115.005

A Resolution in Strong Support to Amend the Syllabi Requirement to Include a Title IX Clause

Sponsored by the Sexual Assault Prevention ad Hoc Committee; Kayla Gunter, Chair and Jessie Poole, Member

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long term best interests of the Student Association in the formulation of the University policy and in the fulfillment of the University mission; and
- Most university employees are required to report gender-based misconduct to Truman's Title IX Coordinator; and
- Faculty members are also required to report gender-based misconduct about which they learn in advising sessions or through third parties such as friends or family members; and
- Many faculty and staff members at Truman are required by the Clery Act to report certain crimes to the Department of Public Safety if those crimes occurred on-campus or off-campus at certain university related events; and ¹
- Faculty members are currently not required to include a statement in all syllabi regarding Title IX violations at Truman; and
- Course assignments, particularly journaling, may result in students sharing information about an incident of gender-based misconduct without knowledge of faculty mandatory reporting guidelines; and
- Providing Title IX language as it relates to gender-based misconduct on course syllabi could help inform victims and witnesses of the resources they have on campus, including the difference in confidential and mandatory reporters; and
- Including information about gender-based misconduct on syllabi would reach most of the Truman student population; and
- Faculty members, which often interact more frequently with students than other Truman employees, could easily support the education of students on Title IX issues through the addition of a clause within all syllabi; and
- Leading universities, such as Colorado State University already provide clear information to students regarding Title IX reporting on faculty syllabi.²

¹ <http://www.truman.edu/gender-based-misconduct/confidentiality-protections-and-reporting-obligations/>

² "CSU's Student Sexual Harassment and Violence policy, following national guidance from the Office of Civil Rights, requires that faculty follow CSU policy as a "mandatory reporter" of any personal disclosure of sexual harassment, abuse, and/or violence related experiences or incidents shared with the faculty member in person, via email, and/or in classroom papers or homework exercises. These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of personal relational abuse, relational/domestic violence, and stalking. While faculty are often able to help students locate appropriate channels of assistance on campus (e.g., see the CSU Health Network link below), disclosure by the student to the faculty member requires that the faculty member inform appropriate CSU channels to help ensure that the student's safety and welfare is being addressed, even if the student requests that the disclosure not be shared. For counseling support and assistance, please see the CSU Health Network, which includes a variety of counseling services that can be accessed at: <http://www.health.colostate.edu/>. And, the Sexual Assault Victim Assistance Team



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT,

- Appreciates the recent improvements to Title IX through the administration's efforts; and
- Recognizes the need for specific Title IX language in faculty syllabi to aid in the education and disclosure of gender-based misconduct policies; and
- Calls for the adoption of a clause in all syllabi clearly dictating that if a student discloses personal instances of sexual harassment, abuse, and/or violence related experiences regardless of whether that information was shared in person, via email, and/or in classroom papers or homework assignments, the faculty/staff member is not a confidential source and must report to designated University personnel; and³
- Supports the inclusion of contact information for confidential support: University Counseling Services 660-785-4014, Student Health Center 660-785-4182, and Victim Support Services Office 660-665-0020 or Crisis Line 660-665-1617; and
- Encourages the inclusion of where to file a complaint: If incident occurred on-campus call Department of Public Safety (DPS) 660-785-4176 or Emergency 911 or if the incident occurred off-campus call Kirksville Police Department 660-665-563 or Emergency 911.

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT

- Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to each current member of the Truman State University Board of Governors, President Troy Paino, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs Sue Thomas, President of Faculty Senate, Dr. Paul Parker Chair of Undergraduate Council, Director of DPS Tom Johnson, Title IX Coordinator Sally Herleth, Dean of Student Affairs Lou Ann Gilchrist, University Counseling Services, the WRC, and the Truman Media Network.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Paulman". The signature is written in a cursive style.

President of the Student Association, Andrew Paulman

is a confidential resource for students that does not have a reporting requirement and that can be of great help to students who have experienced sexual assault. The web address is <http://www.wgac.colostate.edu/need-help-support>.”

³ These disclosures include but are not limited to reports of personal relational abuse, relational/domestic violence, and stalking.