



Executive Summary of 2016 Survey on Campus Perceptions of Unwanted Sexual Experiences

Participation

- ❖ 894 students started the survey with 748 completing it for an 83.6% completion rate, which was a substantially higher completion rate than the 2015 survey.
 - 76% female identified, 22% male identified, 2% non-binary gender.
 - Among undergraduates: 18% identified as a member of a social fraternity/sorority, 3% identified as athletes, and 4% identified as international students.

Perception

- ❖ The majority of the participants (64.31%) perceived that sexual harassment and sexual violence are a problem at DU.

Experience

- ❖ A majority of our students have experienced some form of sexual harassment while at DU, with undergraduate students reporting more experiences of unwanted sexual harassment than graduate students.
 - The overwhelming majority of participants reported that students were responsible for the sexually harassing behavior that they experienced, with only 7% reporting that a faculty/staff member was responsible for such behavior.
- ❖ 46% of all participants reported that they have experienced unwanted physical contact (i.e. “groping, grabbing, having someone brush up against me, or unwanted touch”);
- ❖ 9% of all participants reported that they have experienced unwanted sexual penetration;
 - For both unwanted sexual contact and penetration, the large majority of participants reported that they knew the responsible party (68%).
 - Among undergraduate students over 77% reported that the unwanted behavior was committed by another student, while only about 2% report that the behavior came from faculty/staff.
 - Among graduate students, over 50% reported that the unwanted behavior was committed by another student, while 23% report that the behavior came from faculty/staff.
- ❖ Students report experiencing a wide variety of barriers to acting as a prosocial bystander, which include: social pressures, lack of situational awareness, lack of training on intervention techniques, and fear of retribution.

Programming

- ❖ Only a small minority of students have recently attended a program about preventing sexual violence (33%) or have taken part in activities or projects focused on preventing sexual violence (19%).



Utilization of Procedures and Resources

- ❖ Although a majority of the students state that they would know where to get help if sexually assaulted (73%) and believe that the University would protect the privacy of the reporting party (60%), a minority of students trust the University to take reports of sexual assault seriously (44%).
- ❖ Retaliation (or fear of retaliation) for receiving help continues to be a significant barrier to the University's ability to effectively address issues of gender-based violence and discrimination, with 36% of undergraduate students and 17% of graduate/professional students reporting that they knew someone who had been retaliated against after making a report. These instances of retaliation include verbal abuse, social exclusion (including "blacklisting" from organized groups), and harassment over electronic media.
- ❖ A majority of students who experienced sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, or stalking (or who knew a friend who experienced the same) utilized campus resources, with CAPE being the most frequently used resource. A minority (approximately 20%) stated that they did not utilize any campus resources.

Recommendations

- ❖ Continue to invest in resources that support survivors, policies that hold offenders accountable, and prevention and education that helps build DU's immunity to the infection of gender-based violence.
- ❖ Invest in significant prevention and education training that is both required and repeated throughout the year. All levels of DU's system need to be educated, including undergraduate students, graduate students, but also faculty, staff, and administration.
 - Continued efforts that focus on teaching students, faculty, and staff about how to be prosocial bystanders will be critical to helping our community overcome these common difficulties and barriers. This finding further supports the recommendation above for ongoing, repeated, face-to-face, required prevention education at all levels of the University.
- ❖ Offer more consistent Title IX outreach and training for various constituencies across campus throughout the year in order to improve the visibility and understanding of policies, procedures, and resources.
- ❖ Continue to improve existing bystander intervention training initiatives for students and develop similar training opportunities for employees. Both training opportunities should address bystander response to retaliation against those seeking remedies or support for harassment, discrimination, or violence. Special attention should be given to incentivize training for fraternities, sororities, and athletics.
- ❖ Continue to strengthen education around the intersection of alcohol and consent is needed so that students understand what consent is and how and when to intervene when their friends are unable to consent. This is another finding that supports the expansion of bystander education and Title IX training.