Support Services and Advocacy

Confidential Resource Providers:
Lauren Dansereau, Director of Medical Services/Nurse Practitioner, 413-796-2308, lauren.dansereau@wne.edu.
Ryan Berthiaume, Licensed Staff Mental Health Counselor/Athletics Specialist, 413-796-2385, ryan.berthiaume@wne.edu.

CRPs have received specific training on reporting options and resources available to WNE community members who have experienced sexual harassment, including sexual violence.

YWCA of Western Massachusetts Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault 24-hour Hotline: 413-733-7100 or 800-796-8711
Free counseling, support group, and advocacy.

Medical Attention

Center for Health and Well-Being 413-782-1211
Provides confidential counseling sessions, referrals, crisis assistance, and medical care. A healthcare provider is on-call whenever the Center is closed.

After hours urgent medical needs 413-519-4055
24/7 WNE Mental Health Urgent Care Line 413-310-5389

Local Hospitals:
Baystate Medical Center 413-794-0000
Mercy Medical Center 413-748-9000
Medical Centers provide full medical exams, including preventative treatment. A sexual assault nurse examiner assists the individual.

Emergency Services

Department of Public Safety 413-782-1411
Provides 24-hour coverage with emergency services and has trained rape investigators to assist the survivors.

Local Police Department 911
Public Safety can assist community members in obtaining and enforcing protective orders through the courts, and can assist with safety planning.

Housing and Academic Accommodations

Student Accessibility Services 413-782-1258
Assists with academic accommodations.

Assistant Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students
Jessica Hill 413-782-1282
Assists with referrals for student success.

Director of Residence Life 413-782-1317
Assists with housing accommodations.
What Should You Do If You or Someone You Know Has Experienced Sexual Harassment at Western New England University?

Get Safe. Western New England University is committed to creating a safe learning and working environment. Any report of sexual harassment is taken seriously. Contact Public Safety or Springfield Police if you are in immediate danger or feel threatened.

Look to Professionals. If you are in need of medical assistance, go to University Center for Health and Wellness or a local hospital as soon as possible. Students can discuss options for reporting, support, or other resources with Public Safety, the Title IX Coordinator, or on a confidential basis, with the Confidential Resource Provider. Employees should speak to supervisors, human resources personnel, a vice president, or the Title IX Coordinator.

Reporting. Many individuals are often hesitant to report sexual harassment because drugs and/or alcohol may be involved. The University's highest priority is the safety of everyone on campus. Drugs or alcohol never makes the person who was victimized at fault for the sexual harassment. Students who in good faith report or act as a witness to a report of sexual misconduct may not be subject to sanctions for violations of student conduct policies related to the incident.

Confused about consent? Effective consent means the individual is able to make a free, informed and reasonable choice without the influence of alcohol, drugs, disability, or fear. Remember, consent can be rescinded at any time.

Confidentiality. Community members have access to Confidential Employees, who are restricted from divulging information shared with them. These include clergy, and employees providing medical care, mental health services, and counseling. The Confidential Resource Provider is a confidential employee who has received training on reporting options and support resources available to WNE community members. The University will maintain the privacy of the parties to a Sexual Misconduct grievance to the extent possible, however confidentiality of information shared during the grievance cannot be guaranteed.

Retaliation is not tolerated. The University prohibits any form of retaliation against anyone who participates in a Sexual Harassment/Title IX proceeding. Any allegation of retaliation will be adjudicated through the relevant disciplinary process. Examples of retaliation include pressuring a Complainant to withdraw the complaint; sending unwelcome messages either directly, or through a third-party or electronically; lowering an academic grade; stalking or threatening behavior; issuing a poor performance report; failing to provide or adjust campus services, such as housing, or registration, or changing a work schedule and/or work duties.

Supportive Measures. Community members who have experienced harassment or discrimination, as well as those accused of harassment or discrimination, may be eligible for supportive measures. Supportive measures are temporary, individualized supports that the University can put in place to ensure equal access to educational programming and activities. They include things like mutual no-contact orders, changes to class or work schedules or seating assignments, and modifications to transportation or student housing arrangements.

Sarah Butterick, Title IX and Compliance Officer
413-782-1216, sarah.butterick@wne.edu, wne.edu/title-ix

Sexual harassment is defined as:
• Any instance of quid pro quo harassment or “this for that” harassment
• Any unwelcome conduct that a reasonable person would find so severe and pervasive, and objectively offensive that it denies a person equal educational access
• Any instance of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking that is prohibited by Title IX and not tolerated at Western New England University

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