

Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance

September 22, 2017

Dear UNC Community,

Sexual assault is an issue that impacts far too many members of our campus community. With the U.S. Department of Education having recently issued new guidance on how colleges and universities handle such allegations and incidents, we want to take the opportunity to remind you of our process and values in these cases. UNC remains committed to addressing and reducing incidents of sexual misconduct through investigation, adjudication, education, and training.

Going forward, we will continue to ensure that we:

- Uphold a transparent and equitable process that respectfully supports individual rights, fundamental fairness, and due process for all parties involved in the investigatory/conduct process.
- Provide space for all parties involved in the process to share experiences, seek resources, and receive support.
- Continue to provide prevention and educational programs and training to students, faculty, and staff on a regular and ongoing basis.
- Strive to create and maintain a trusted reporting environment by making our reporting mechanisms and supportive services as effective and accessible as possible.

Our processes focus on determining whether University Policy has been violated and does not make any determination regarding criminal behavior. We believe that it is essential to maintain a process that is separate and distinct from those relating to any criminal charges brought under the legal system, allowing us to address allegations of sexual assault and misconduct in the same ways we would address any other alleged violations of our policies. The court system must remain an option for all members of our community to pursue justice, and at the same time must not be the only option.

For more information on reporting and resources at UNC please visit:

- The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance http://www.unco.edu/sexual-misconduct/
- The UNC Student Judiciary http://www.unco.edu/student-senate/student-judiciary/
- The Assault Survivor Advocacy Program (ASAP) http://www.unco.edu/asap/

We are dedicated to continuing to address these important issues as a Community of Bears in a manner consistent with our institutional values.

Sincerely,

The Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance Staff Larry Loften, Title IX Coordinator University Center 3060 O: 970-351-4899 titleix@unco.edu