

Chancellor's Task Force on Sexual and Relationship Violence
June 8, 2017
3:30 - 5:00 pm

Attendees:

Rebecca Reed Kantrowitz, co-chair
Diane Lyden Murphy, co-chair
Randi Bregman
Katelyn Cowen
Rebecca Dayton
Linda Stone Fish
Tula Goenka
Huey Hsiao

Bobby Maldonado
Suzette Melendez
Jeffrey Pauline
Abby Perer
Pam Peter
Cory Wallack
Barry L. Wells
Denise Dowdall, support staff

Rebecca Reed Kantrowitz, co-chair, welcomed new co-chair, Diane Lyden Murphy. Members introduced themselves.

Minutes from the April meeting were moved, seconded, and approved.

Diane Murphy opened the meeting expressing her pleasure to be part of the group.

There was discussion about reporting requirements and restrictions, and the need to disseminate information appropriately while also safeguarding privacy.

- A suggestion was made that each meeting of the Task Force include a regular report about current issues on campus related to sexual assault and relationship violence.

Chief Bobby Maldonado recounted the meeting that he attended with Samantha Skaller and Syracuse Police Chief, Frank Fowler.

- He said that the Chief was receptive to suggestions from the student perspective about ways to improve relationships among students and the police, among them more officer training, having an SPD representative on the Task Force, and DPS collaboration with the NYS Police investigators to expedite case investigation.
- Chief Fowler, who will soon be leaving that position, will take all the suggestions under advisement and will discuss them with his colleagues.

Katelyn Cowen reviewed the Sexual and Relationship Violence Prevention Programming Plan for 2017-18, which expands on work already being done by the Office of Health Promotion.

- The goals include consistent messaging regarding sexual assault and relationship violence, bystander intervention, male engagement, sexual self-efficacy, a supportive environment for victims and survivors, and compliance with State and Federal regulations.

- Building the capacity of their outreach is a focus area.
- There was discussion about the volume of work to be done and the feasibility of recruiting staff and faculty across campus to serve as liaisons. The group felt this could be a good idea provided those people were properly trained and knew when and how to refer students to an official resource.
- The Task Force will help with the effort to get more male involvement, particularly with awareness and education.

Barry L. Wells delivered a request from Chancellor Syverud that the Task Force, along with the University Council on Diversity and Inclusion, discuss a request from students to address the domestic violence and alleged sexual assault history of honored alumnus and former SU football player, Jim Brown.

- Student representatives have discussed their concerns with Chancellor Syverud and Athletic Director John Wildhack. The students understand that it is a complex situation.
- The Chancellor wants discussion and recommendations from the group about how to address this situation and how to be sure we avoid a similar situation in the future.
- The group suggested that there might be ways to turn this into a teachable moment and turn a negative into a positive.
- This will be considered further.

Rebecca Reed Kantrowitz asked for goals/priorities for the coming year:

- Find ways to support the Office of Health Promotion.
- Recruit more involvement from men and student-athletes.
- Explore what has worked in the past to build on for the future, i.e., education, outreach, events.
- Consider sponsoring a statewide, daylong conference on sexual violence on college campuses.
- More collaboration with the Syracuse Police Department
- Institute an incident review report for the Task Force.

-Meeting adjourned-