

# Spring 2017 Student Sexual Misconduct Climate Survey & Self-Assessment Brief

February, 2018



# Context & General Information

## **STUDENT SURVEY ON SEXUAL MISCONDUCT/VIOLENCE CLIMATE AT MSU DENVER**

- Administered annually since 2015 (different tool in 2015)
- Initially expected federal legislative mandate- did not occur, but on the radar in Colorado (including this year)
- EAB instrument (no additional cost to us, but limited customization of instrument)
- Several key improvements have emerged from the earlier surveys
- Limitation of findings: Very low response rate

## **SEXUAL ASSAULT DIAGNOSTIC INVENTORY (SADI)**

- Participated in spring 2017
- Sponsored by the CO Attorney General's Office
- Self-assessment using an inventory; scored by EverFi to offer comparative data and recommendations

*NOTE: Although we absolutely have work to do to improve our climate and practices, neither engagement was designed to address a particular problem or concern.*

# Sexual Misconduct and Title IX

## *Student* Prevention & Education Overview

- Collaborative programming along with:
  - The Phoenix Center at Auraria (PCA)
  - Student Government Assembly (SGA)
  - Institute for Women's Studies and Services (IWSS)
  - LGBTQ Student Resource Center
  - ...and others
- *Roadrunners United: Interpersonal Violence Prevention Training* (online module) loaded into every student's Blackboard account
- Print and web materials pushed to students through several channels

# Collaborative Effort

## 16-17 Student Climate Survey Committee

- Dean of Students Office
- Office of Equal Opportunity
- Special Assistant to the President/Special Counsel to the Office of Diversity
- LGBTQ Student Resource Center (Student Representative)
- Student Government Assembly President (Student Representative)
- Phoenix Center at Auraria
- Student Activities
- Institute for Women's Studies and Services
- Council of Chairs representative
- Team DELTA

*Note: Faculty Senate was also invited to have a representative on the committee*

## 2017 SADI Assessment Team

- Dean of Students Office
- Office of Equal Opportunity
- Phoenix Center at Auraria
- Student Activities
- Student Government Assembly (Student Representative)

# Key Findings:

## Climate Survey (2016 and 2017)

- Most students agreed or strongly agreed that faculty (88%) and administrators (78%) are concerned with their welfare
- Most students agreed or strongly agreed that they feel safe at MSU Denver (88%)
- 72% of students reported knowing confidential resources on-campus and where to get help if they/a friend experienced sexual violence
- 84% of students agreed or strongly agreed that MSU Denver would take a report of sexual misconduct seriously
- However, 34% of students felt they would face retaliation for making a report
- 84% of students have confidence in MSU Denver's formal procedures for addressing sexual misconduct; however, only 45% reported they understand MSU Denver's procedures to address reports of sexual misconduct
- Note: Over one-third of students reported experiencing unwanted sexual contact before attending MSU Denver

# Key Findings: SADI

**Overall, MSU Denver hovers around the national average for the three major areas that the inventory examined.**

- The diverse and collaborative nature of our educational/prevention programming was an identified strength
- We are on par with our peers with respect to engagement in continuous improvement in this area
- Our institutional commitment to attending to sexual misconduct matters is similarly in line with national trends

## **Yet...**

- We do not staff our work in this area at a level that's commensurate with our peers
- Our funding allocated for violence prevention efforts is less than similarly sized institutions
- We do not require our students to participate in prevention training as many institutions do

# Recommendations & Guiding Questions for our Community

- **Increase community awareness about MSU Denver's Title IX reporting procedures, including non-retaliation policy.**
  - Consider mandatory training for all students on the topics of sexual misconduct and reporting options
  - Provide training on resources and procedures during New Student Orientation (*in progress since summer 2017*)
  - Provide additional programming opportunities for faculty and staff to engage on the topics of sexual assault prevention
- Continue to partner with the PCA on education/prevention campaigns for students (*note: New FTE in the PCA for this work, started summer 2017*)
- Continue to assess student policies and procedures annually and continue climate assessment- but on a biennial basis
- Consider MSU Denver-specific education and prevention staff and dedicated prevention resources

## *A note about mandatory training for students...*

- We are currently mandated to *offer* training for all students; not to mandate that they complete it (Violence Against Women Act)
- Some (but not all) of our peers do mandate that all students complete a training (typically an online module with a registration hold for non-completion)