



SENATE RESOLUTION #2719

TITLE: ASUW Support for Lauren's Promise to be Included on University Syllabi

DATE INTRODUCED: October 27, 2020

AUTHOR: Chief of Legislative Affairs Swilling and First-Year Senate Advisor Ward

SPONSORS: The Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy Committee; The University Counseling Center; Chief of Staff Rhymes; Director of Sustainability and Wellness Harris; United Multicultural Council Co-Chair Gonzales

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW)
2. Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, according to the key findings of the 2018 University of Wyoming (UW) Sexual
4. Misconduct Climate Survey, as shown in Addendum A, 27.1% of UW students report having
5. been the victim of unwanted sexual touching, penetration, or attempted penetration; and,
6. WHEREAS, 21.0% of UW students report having been the victim of at least one instance of
7. completed or attempted oral, vaginal, or anal rape; and,
8. WHEREAS, according to the Climate Survey, in 65% of cases, perpetrators of sexual assault
9. against UW students were themselves UW students; and,
10. WHEREAS, only 14.4% of sexual assaults against UW were perpetrated by a stranger, and
11. 32.9% by a current or former romantic partner; and,
12. WHEREAS, 26.8% of female respondents, 10.4% of male respondents, and 52.6% of gender
13. non-conforming respondents reported at least one instance of physical assault or dating
14. violence by an intimate partner; and,
15. WHEREAS, 30.5% of UW students report having been victims of stalking; and,
16. WHEREAS, according to the National Institute of Justice, about 85% to 90% of sexual
17. assaults reported by college women are perpetrated by someone known to the victim, and

18. about half occur on a date, as shown in Addendum B; and,

19. WHEREAS, this situation is not uncommon, as exemplified by the case of Lauren

20. McCluskey, a student at University of Utah, who was killed by a man she briefly dated; and,

21. WHEREAS, Lauren reported that she was being harassed and followed by her killer to

22. the University of Utah police multiple times, but no substantive action was taken to protect

23. her; and,

24. WHEREAS, Lauren's friends also reported their concerns to university staff, but

25. similarly, no action was taken; and,

26. WHEREAS, Lauren exercised all due diligence in alerting authorities that she was in

27. danger; and,

28. WHEREAS, despite this, no action was taken, and Lauren was killed by her stalker on

29. the University of Utah campus on the night of October 22, 2018; and,

30. WHEREAS, in response to this tragedy, Dr. Jill McCluskey, Lauren's mother, created

31. Lauren's Promise, as shown in Addendum C, which includes information on how

32. students can report sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking, and resources that are

33. available to them, as well as information for students to advocate for others who may be

34. affected; and,

35. WHEREAS, The promise also says that a professor will listen and believe a student if

36. someone is threatening them; and,

37. WHEREAS, since Lauren's death, the promise has been adopted by faculty members at

38. more than 30 colleges and universities, including schools in Canada and Australia.

39. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming

40. (ASUW) Student Government that the ASUW stands in solidarity with all those who

41. have been affected by any form of sexual harassment, assault, or stalking; and,
42. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the ASUW recognize and support the efforts
43. that the University of Wyoming has undertaken to spread awareness, prevent, and
44. support victims of sexual assault and harassment, including through resources such as
45. SAFE Project, STOP Violence, Green Dot at UW, and many others; and,
46. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the ASUW supports the recommendations from
47. the Sexual Misconduct Climate Survey, as shown in Addendum D; and,
48. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that the ASUW strongly recommend that faculty
49. include a Lauren's Promise as shown in Addendum E on their syllabi in the future, in order
50. to spread awareness of these resources and further educate students on how to prevent sexual
51. assault and support victims; and,
52. THEREFORE, be it further resolved the ASUW believes that including Lauren's Promise on
53. UW syllabi will help further the implementation of the recommendations of the Sexual
54. Misconduct Climate Survey by promoting visibility of reporting mechanisms and processes
55. and spreading awareness of resources that provide post-assault support for survivors; and,
56. THEREFORE, be it further resolved that copies of this legislation be distributed to members
57. of the UW Faculty Senate Executive Committee and Student Interaction Committee, and that
58. information about Lauren's Promise be shared on the UW Faculty Mailing List.

Referred to: Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy; Program and Institutional Development

Date of Passage: 11/3/2020

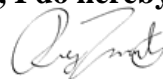
Signed:



(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on 11/3/2020**, I do hereby sign my name hereto and**

approve this Senate action.”



ASUW President

Addendum A

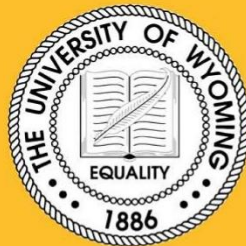
University of Wyoming Sexual Misconduct Climate Survey- 2018

UW Sexual Misconduct Task Force

Data Committee:

Dr. Matt J. Gray and Tess M. Kilwein (Co-Chairs), Kendal C. Binion and Stephanie Amaya

June 15, 2018



Key Findings

An advantage of the survey used in this effort-the Administrator Researcher Campus Climate Collaborative (ARC3)-is that it uses well-validated, detailed, comprehensive, and behaviorally specific questions. Doing so is considered best practice, as it allows for optimally sensitive and accurate sexual misconduct prevalence rates to be determined. Historical approaches that did not inquire about specific variants of assault have been shown to significantly underestimate sexual victimization rates (White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault, 2014). Although detailed questions about sexual assault and misconduct experiences can be distressing to some respondents, every effort was made in recruitment and consent procedures to inform potential participants about the nature of the questions that they would be asked and to assure them that they were free to discontinue responding at any time without penalty. The procedures were approved by UW Institutional Review Board, and no adverse incidents were reported to study personnel whose contact information was provided.

- **Sexual Assault:** 27.1% of the 1,913 respondents who completed the UW Sexual Misconduct Campus Climate Survey reported experiencing at least one instance of sexual assault during their time at UW. For this analysis, sexual assault was defined as any nonconsensual sexual touching or any attempted or completed act of nonconsensual oral, anal, or vaginal sex. With respect to gender and sexual assault, 34.0% of women, 12.8% of men, and 50.0% of gender non-conforming participants reported experiencing at least one instance of sexual assault.
- **Attempted or Completed Rape:** Narrowing analyses to only instances of attempted or completed oral, anal, or vaginal rape (i.e., excluding nonconsensual sexual touching), 21% of respondents reported experiencing at least one instance of such an assault during their time at UW. More specifically, 26.8% of women, 8.9% of men, and 46.2% of gender non-conforming individuals reported an experience of attempted or completed rape. Narrowing analyses even further to only instances of completed rape (i.e., excluding attempted but not completed rape), 15% of respondents reported such an assault during their time at UW. As a function of gender, 19% of women, 6% of men, and 30.8% of gender non-conforming individuals reported such an experience.
- **Comparability to Other Institutions:** The rates of assault outlined above are unfortunately typical. Though some institutions for which comparable ARC3 data are publicly available have slightly higher (e.g., Tulane University, Ohio University) or slightly lower (e.g., Penn State, University of Colorado) rates of sexual assault, most institutions report rates within a few percentage points of those noted here. Accordingly, these numbers are not spuriously high or atypical, but rather, indicative of the pandemic of sexual violence among college students across the nation. They also attest to the aforementioned reality that the great majority of sexual assault survivors do not report their experiences to campus authorities, faculty, or staff and/or that the assaults in question did not occur on campus property and are therefore unrepresented among Clery Act data. To this point, 286 of our 1913 respondents reported experiencing an act of completed oral, anal, or vaginal rape. Even if NO non-respondents experienced an act of sexual violence, as with other institutions, these numbers dwarf those that appear in formal campus crime statistic reports.

- **Student Reporting of Sexual Assault:** Consistent with prior research, only a slight majority (53.2%) of those experiencing sexual assault told someone about the incident before this survey. Of those who did disclose their assault to someone else, not surprisingly, the majority reported this experience to a close friend (89.9%), roommate (52.0%), romantic partner (36.7%), or parent (22.4%). Only 13.1% of those experiencing an assault reported their assault to a UW faculty or staff member, and only 9.9% indicated that they made a complaint or filed a report with the Dean of Students office or through formal UW reporting mechanisms (e.g., Title IX office). These reporting trends easily account for the difference of assault rates reported here and those that appear in formal campus crime statistic reports.
- **Sexual Harassment:** Sexual harassment is defined by the U.S. Equal Opportunity Employment Commission as "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical harassment of a sexual nature" and is operationalized by the ARC3 as behaviors such as making sexist remarks, engaging in unwelcome sexual conversations, and repeated attempts to initiate a romantic or sexual relationship despite saying no or discouraging it. During their time at UW, 35% of respondents (37% of women, 31% of men, and 69% of gender non-conforming respondents) reported experiencing at least one form of harassment by *faculty* or *staff*. With respect to harassment perpetrated by other *students*, 58% of respondents (65% of women, 45% of men, and 85% of gender non-conforming participants) reported at least one experience of sexual harassment.
- **Intimate Partner and Dating Violence:** 26.8% of female respondents, 10.4% of male respondents, and 52.6% of gender non-conforming respondents reported at least one instance of physical assault or dating violence by an intimate partner. Overall-across gender categories- this represents a 21.7% intimate partner and dating violence victimization rate experienced by respondents while at UW.

<https://www.uwyo.edu/stop/climate-survey/>

Addendum B



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Most Victims Know Their Attacker

September 30, 2008

About 85 to 90 percent of sexual assaults reported by college women are perpetrated by someone known to the victim; about half occur on a date. The most common locations are the man's or woman's home in the context of a party or a date. The perpetrators may range from classmates to neighbors.

Half of all student victims do not define the incident as "rape." This is especially true when no weapon was used, there is no obvious physical injury, and alcohol was involved — factors commonly associated with campus acquaintance rape. This is one reason rape and other sexual assaults on campus are not well reported.

Fewer than 5 percent of completed and attempted rapes of college students are reported to campus administrators or law enforcement, according to one study. Failure to recognize and report the crime to law enforcement officials may contribute to underestimating the extent of the problem and may affect whether victims seek medical care. However, those who report in other contexts, such as through a confidential reporting system, are more likely to seek medical or counseling services.

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Date Created: September 30, 2008

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Addendum C



Jill McCluskey

@jjmcccluskey



Here is my "Lauren's Promise" syllabus statement that provides WSU-specific resources. Professors at other universities can substitute the resources at their universities. It's important to highlight that faculty care and are willing to help.

Lauren's Promise- I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening you.

Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year-old honors student athlete, was murdered on Oct. 22, 2018, by a man she briefly dated on the University of Utah campus. ***We must all take actions to ensure that this never happens again.***

If you are in immediate danger, call **911**.

If you are experiencing sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking, please report it to me and I will connect you to resources or call Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse at **877-334-2887** (24-hour crisis hotline).

Any form of sexual harassment or violence will not be excused or tolerated at Washington State University. WSU has instituted procedures to respond to violations of these laws and standards, programs aimed at the prevention of such conduct, and intervention on behalf of the victims.

WSU Police officers will treat victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking with respect and dignity. Confidentiality is of the utmost importance and WSU Police will assist by providing resources to victims. In addition to its law enforcement efforts regarding sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking, WSU Police refer victims to the appropriate university and/or local community counseling and other resources devoted to assisting victims.

Advocates help survivors determine their own needs in regards to their physical and emotional health, reporting options, and academic concerns. They connect survivors to campus and community services, and provide accompaniment to important appointments (court, hospital, and police) and support throughout the process. WSUPD can also connect you with advocacy services, if desired. The local advocacy group is Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, whose services are free, immediate, and confidential.

Other confidential resources include WSU Counseling and Psychological Services. If you would like to speak with a counselor after business hours, WSUPD can contact the on-call counselor and have them call you directly or a crisis telephone number is provided. Information shared with the counselor will not be provided to WSUPD without expressed permission from you.

WSU Counseling and Psychological Services 509-335-2159 (crisis services line)

<https://twitter.com/jjmcccluskey/status/1157120442257199105/photo/1>

Addendum D

Recommendations

- **Intensified Prevention Programming:** The White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault released an initial report in 2014 affirming CDC findings that isolated/brief educational programs and online trainings are ineffective in reducing rates of sexual violence. Although such programs are an important, efficient, and cost-effective approach to disseminating information pertaining to sexual misconduct and consent, and arguably should be retained, it is clear from available research findings that they are perhaps necessary, but certainly insufficient, in impacting sexual assault rates. Such programs have been shown to increase knowledge about sexual misconduct and consent while not evidently reducing sexual assault rates. The CDC has released a technical package to prevent sexual violence with excellent recommendations for evidence-based approaches to reducing sexual assault (Basile et al., 2016). In particular, more intensive bystander intervention programs, including *Bringing in the Bystander* and Green Dot, have been shown to not only improve knowledge and understanding (similar to on line educational programs) but also increase bystander intervention behaviors and reduce rates of harassment and sexual misconduct perpetration on college campuses. Given the prevalence of sexual misconduct identified in this survey, serious consideration should be given to these more substantive and intensive prevention programming approaches. This technical package can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/SV-Prevention-Technical-Package.pdf>. Recommendations for comprehensively preventing and addressing campus sexual misconduct have also been recently advanced by the CDC (Dills, Fowler, & Payne, 2016):

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/campusvprevention.pdf>. It will be difficult to appreciably reduce the prevalence of sexual misconduct at UW without enhancing prevention resources and efforts.

- **Continued Improvement in Promoting Visibility of Reporting Mechanisms and Processes:** The University of Wyoming has recently enhanced visibility of reporting options and information by improving the reporting website (<http://www.uwyo.edu/reportit/>) and disseminating information about reporting. Nevertheless, in addition to a general lack of awareness of various resources and information available in connection with issues of sexual misconduct, there were a great many comments in the open-ended responses at the end of this report indicating continued confusion about what to report, how to report, and what one's rights and responsibilities are. This underscores the importance of sexual misconduct information and programming being intensified and distributed more regularly throughout students' experiences. It may well be that information that students initially demonstrate understanding of through on line trainings is forgotten over time. Continued efforts to clarify and inform the campus community about reporting and university responses and resources will be critical in the years ahead.
- **Greater Post-Assault Support for Survivors:** Sexual assault is associated with especially high rates of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other emotional and psychological consequences. As reviewed by Yuan, Koss and Stone (2006), studies of sexual assault survivors

have yielded PTSD rates ranging from 30% to 65%. Rates of depression and substance abuse are also much higher among survivors of sexual assault relative to the general population. Given that 1 in 3 UW women in our survey reported a sexual assault victimization experience- with 1 in 5 of those being an act of completed rape-the number of survivors experiencing significant emotional and psychological consequences of assault is arguably in the hundreds. Effective treatment of PTSD and other sequelae of sexual violence requires evidence-based, best practice approaches, rather than broad supportive counseling (<https://www.apa.org/ptsd-guideline/ptsd.pdf>). The sole clinic on campus that routinely provides the treatment approaches strongly recommended by the American Psychological Association in addressing PTSD based on the best available research typically reaches client capacity during fall semester and runs a waitlist the rest of the year. Increased therapy resources and capacity are critical in addressing survivors' mental health needs in a timely fashion.

- **Continue to Improve Timeliness of University Investigation and Response:** Numerous open-ended comments at the end of this document pertained to delayed and/or unsatisfactory responses to sexual misconduct reports. It is important to note that respondents to this survey reported assaults occurring up to several years ago. Accordingly, it is unclear what percentage of these comments pertain to incidents and university responses that predate current policies and personnel tasked with responding to incidents of sexual misconduct experienced by UW students. Encouragingly, UW has already increased capacity to respond in a timely and effective manner with the hiring of additional investigators within the past year. This enhancement should improve response quality and timeliness going forward. Nevertheless, continued emphasis on timely and effective responding will be important to monitor and prioritize.

Addendum E

Lauren's Promise – I will listen and believe you if someone is threatening you.

Lauren McCluskey, a 21-year old honors student athlete, was murdered on October 22, 2018, by a man she briefly dated on the University of Utah campus. **We must all take actions to ensure that this never happens again.**

If you are in immediate danger, call **911**.

If you are experiencing sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking, **there are resources available to you.**

Confidential resources offered by the University of Wyoming and the Laramie community include:

- The University Counseling Center provides free and **confidential** counseling and crisis intervention to UW students, including trauma counseling. The UCC can be reached at (307)766-2187 during business hours and an after-hours crisis line is available at (307)766-8989.
- Student Health Services provides **confidential** medical services to UW students, including reproductive exams and STI testing. They can be reached at (307) 766-2130 to schedule an appointment.
- The Psychology Center for Training in Assessment, Treatment, and Clinical Research at the University of Wyoming provides **confidential** psychotherapy services to UW students (\$5/session) and community members, including trauma treatment and a sexual assault support group. The UWPC can be reached at (307) 766-2149.
- WellSpring Counseling Clinic provides free and **confidential** counseling services to UW students and the Laramie community. The clinic can be reached at (307) 766-5649.
- Albany County SAFE Project provides free and **confidential** advocacy and crisis support victims and survivors of sexual assault and domestic and dating violence. SAFE Project can be reached on their 24-hour hotline at (307) 745-3556 and their campus services coordinator can be reached at (307) 766-3434.

Additional resources offered by the University of Wyoming and the Laramie community include:

- Report it to me and I will connect you to resources available to support you. While I am mandated to report sexual violence and sexual harassment to the University, it is always your choice whether you would like to participate in a follow-up or investigation process.
- UW Police Department can be reached at (307) 766-5179 to report a crime or request a safety escort.
- Dean of Students can provide supportive measures for students who have experienced sexual misconduct, including academic assistance. The Assistant Dean of Students, Libby Thorson, can be reached at (307) 766-3296.
- Title IX conducts investigations on reports of sexual misconduct. The Title IX Coordinator, Jim Osborne, can be reached at (307) 766-5200.
- Ivins Memorial Hospital Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners provide forensic evaluation, treatment, and evidence collection related to sexual assault or intimate partner violence.

They can be reached during business hours at the Forensic Nursing main line (307) 455-4406, or 24/7 via the Iverson Hospital Crisis Line (307) 742-0285.