The Title IX Compliance Committee (TIXCC) has been in place since April, 2011 and meets regularly to keep abreast of regulations, internal policies and procedures, training and other activities related to sexual misconduct.

OVERVIEW

- The University hosted (and TIXCC members attended) the Independent Colleges and Universities in Texas (ICUT) "Title IX Compliance Conference" featuring Peter F. Lake, law professor, author, and Director of Center for Excellence in Higher Education Law and Policy.
- Analyzed and distributed a summary of the Higher Education Data Sharing Consortium (HEDS) Sexual Assault Climate Survey.
- Sexual Assault Risk Reduction Committee (SARR) and Student Life created a poster, "Sexual Misconduct Resources and Reporting," which was posted in every classroom and all residence hall rooms.
- Increased participation in Training for Intervention Procedures (TIPS).
- Prepared and distributed guidance for handling phone calls about sexual misconduct.
- Participated in Title IX/VAWA Training for Academic Officers.
- Reviewed and selected vendor for online sexual misconduct training for faculty and staff which will be implemented during 2017–2018.
- Continued to provide relevant training for students, faculty and staff.
In Spring, 2017, the University was contacted by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) of the U.S. Department of Education in relation to a prior case of sexual misconduct. The University has completed its response to the OCR. (See the University’s notification to the community and also the Q&A’s.) The University is awaiting feedback/outcomes on this and another case.

The TIXCC distributed policies and resources related to sexual harassment/misconduct and alcohol and drug-free workplace requirements to all faculty and staff and will continue to do so annually.

SARR, together with input from students, faculty and staff, completed a thorough review and update to the University’s Yellow Book for Resources and Reporting Options for Sexual Misconduct or Sexual Assault, resulting in a more trauma-informed approach.

EverFi’s online module Haven: Understanding Sexual Assault was completed by all new students.

TIXCC participated in a training program entitled, “Clery Compliance Big Changes Ahead: The Penn State Fines and Report and Clery Handbook Changes – Immediate and Long-Term Implications for Your Institution.” A special task force took action to review and update forms and processes, especially those involving student travel.

Members of the TIXCC and academic administrators participated in a training program entitled, “Title IX/VAWA Training for Chief Academic Officers.”

Members of the TIXCC participated in a training program entitled, “Steps to Take Now to Improve the Quality of Institutional Investigations.”

The Sanctioning Guidelines, which were created in 2015-2016, were utilized for the Sexual Misconduct Hearing Board training in the fall of 2016 and will continue to be used going forward.

The Title IX Coordinator and Deputy Coordinator conducted Title IX training for the Southwestern University Board of Trustees.

Southwestern’s Student Athlete Advisory Committee’s (SAAC) initiative related to the NCAA’s "It’s On Us" national campaign included a Public Service Announcement and a banner with the logo and pledge which was presented at two different events.

The TIXCC reviewed four (4) separate sexual misconduct training programs for use by faculty and staff. A program was selected and will be implemented during 2017-2018.

The University enhanced its Policy and Procedures on Sexual Harassment to include a detailed procedures summary.
COMMUNICATIONS

- SARR, together with Student Life, developed a poster, “Sexual Misconduct Resources and Reporting,” which is displayed in all classrooms and residence hall rooms.
- A report of the HEDS Sexual Assault Climate Survey was completed and posted to the Title IX website.
- The TIXCC created and distributed two documents to all supervisors and to administrative support staff about appropriate response to phone calls regarding sexual misconduct matters. One document provides detailed guidance and the other is a “Quick Reference Card.”
- The Vice President for Student Life and the Dean of Students/Deputy Title IX Coordinator conducted presentations to faculty, staff, and students regarding the OCR request for information.
- Threat Assessment Team information was posted to the SUPD webpage.
- A Privacy Resources page was developed.
- The Student Life programming group conducted a survey of students in the fall of 2016 to ask what types of programming are most wanted and needed. Results indicated that students have a low level of interest in programs related to sexual assault prevention. The University will work to continue efforts to conduct programming to increase students’ awareness about sexual misconduct.
PROGRAMMING

- A newly formed student group, Coalition Against Sexual Violence, worked with the Southwestern Health Educator to develop programming. We expect these efforts to continue in 2017-2018.
- SUPD promoted and/or participated in monthly safety and awareness training, including stalking prevention, personal safety and defense, alcohol and drug awareness, sexual assault prevention, and other safety topics.
- SUPD conducted self-defense classes twice in each of the fall and spring semesters.
- SUPD presented Safety Talks to all campus fraternities.
- Six (6) Training for Intervention Procedures (TIPS) workshops were conducted throughout the year and reached over 50 students. This training program explains how to create responsible spaces for campus parties, bystander intervention, and alcohol safety. The Interfraternity Council (IFC) endorsed TIPS training for all new members beginning in the spring of 2017.
- “A Week for All of Us” (co-named with Last S.T.R.A.W.) was driven by student organizations including the Progressive Student Alliance, Student Government Association (SGA), and SU Planned Piratehood (SUPP).
- As part of the University’s First-Year Orientation activities, the division of Student Life conducted three large-group Safety Talk presentations which included a Title IX overview by the Title IX Coordinator, and smaller-group break-out sessions to discuss in more detail information about sexual misconduct and other safety-related items.
- Alcohol Edu training programs continued to be used as part of the student alcohol education and abuse prevention initiatives.
- The University-developed Bystander Intervention training program was redesigned, piloted and implemented under its new name, "Steer the Ship." The new version is more interactive, is designed to be presented by students, and can be completed in less than 75 minutes. Approximately 70 student leaders participated in a student training session and, in addition, the program was twice offered to the campus community at large.
- In response to student feedback, the TIX Deputy Coordinator and the Director of the Counseling and Health Center researched presenters for an orientation program on consent, sexual misconduct, and bystander intervention, and selected a new vendor. A team of upperclass students attended the presentation and served as resources to new students during the dinner hour that evening.
LOOKING AHEAD

- The University will continue to review its sexual misconduct policies and procedures.
- The TIXCC will continue to seek out Title IX and related education programs, seminars, webinars, and conferences for its academic administrators and faculty leaders.
- The TIXCC will monitor ongoing changes in compliance and legislation (local, state, federal).
- The TIXCC will continue to support ICUT regarding Texas legislature’s development of sexual misconduct regulations.
- The TIXCC will further develop the University’s library of online training modules for faculty and staff education.
- Together with the University’s Institutional Research department, the TIXCC will prepare for the administration of the HEDS Sexual Assault Climate Survey in the Spring of 2018.

SUMMARY OF CASES

- There were 16 reports of sexual misconduct, and each was investigated and resulted in multiple supportive accommodations, restrictions and sanctions.
- There was one (1) sexual misconduct hearing which resulted in a finding of "responsible."
- There was one (1) investigation conducted under the University’s Policy and Procedures on Sexual Harassment which resulted in a determination that the Policy had been violated. Appropriate sanctions were issued.