ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 4-034

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE TITLE IX SYLLABUS LANGUAGE AS PROPOSED BY SAPAC

WHEREAS, The goal of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center (hereafter SAPAC) is to “promote healthy relationships, teach non-violence and equality, support survivor healing, and foster a respectful and safe environment for all members of the University of Michigan community;”

WHEREAS, 1 in 4 women and 3 in 50 men in college will experience an attempted or completed sexual assault ¹; AND

WHEREAS, It is estimated that 64% to 96% of rapes go unreported ²; AND

WHEREAS, Sexual assault survivors are more likely to report their assault when assured that they can report confidentially; AND

WHEREAS, Title IX “prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities;” AND

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WHEREAS, the University of Michigan has numerous confidential and non-confidential resources such as the Office for Institutional Equity, SAPAC, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), and the Office of the Ombuds for reporting of sexual assault and the pursuit of Title IX offenses; AND

WHEREAS, SAPAC, in conjunction with CSG have created guidelines ⁴ to serve as templates for professors and departments in relaying information about reporting resources to students via their syllabi; AND

WHEREAS, Survivors often face detrimental psychological effects, impacting the well-being of survivors and often negatively affecting their academic performance; AND

WHEREAS, The purpose of placing these guidelines is to guide survivors to resources, report assaults, and deter offenders from committing acts of sexual violence; AND

¹ http://www.nsvrc.org/saam/campus-resource-list
³ http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/title_IX_rights_201104.pdf
WHEREAS, It is documented that “perceived threat of formal sanctions (being dismissed from the university or arrested) had a significant deterrent effect on potential perpetrators of sexual assault;” ⁵ AND

WHEREAS, Institutions such as the University of Hawaii and the University of Iowa have included similar language on their syllabi; AND

WHEREAS, LSA Student Government and Engineering Student Government have recently presented a similar resolution in support of this SAPAC initiative;

WHEREAS, SAPAC has the approval of Title IX Coordinator Anthony Walesby and SAPAC Director Holly Rider-Milkovich; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That Central Student Government officially supports this initiative to place the following language into academic syllabi:

“Student Sexual Misconduct Policy/Understanding Sexual Misconduct”
The University’s Student Sexual Misconduct Policy, in accordance with federal law (Title IX), makes it clear that sexual misconduct, violence and harassment are civil rights offenses (see: http://studentsexualmisconductpolicy.umich.edu/).

If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, confidential support and guidance can be found with the University’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and at the Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center (SAPAC). SAPAC can be contacted on their 24-hour 88 crisis line, 734-936-3333. More information is available at caps.umich.edu and sapac.umich.edu.

Alleged violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Office for Institutional Equity (OIE) at: institutional.equity@umich.edu. While CAPS and SAPAC are confidential spaces, other university-affiliated individuals may have responsibilities to share that information with the university. If you have any questions about who is mandated to report, contact 94 the OIE or SAPAC. In case of an emergency, call 911.

; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That CSG and SAPAC will actively advocate for the rights, protection and support of all members of the University of Michigan community by promoting the usage of these guidelines by contacting, encouraging, and discussing with departmental administration, executive administrators, and faculty about the importance of including these guidelines; AND BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED, That this resolution be sent to all relevant media outlets, faculty, and university administrators.

Authors

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Christian Bashi, LSA  Laurel Ruza, Public Policy
Speaker of the Assembly  Vice Speaker of the Assembly

President’s Approval

Bobby Dishell

Presented to the Assembly for First Reads on

Presented to the Assembly for Second Reads on

Yes: _____  No: _____  Abs: _____  Date: __________________

Signature Necessary: ______  Signature Received By _________________: ______