

## Prevention Programs and Initiatives

In 2017, the Division of Student Affairs adopted fostering a culture of consent and health relationships as a strategic priority. Led by a cross-campus committee, new prevention initiatives were developed and implemented. These include:

- Completion of the **NASPA Culture of Respect Evaluation** of all campus efforts. (2017)
- Development of a public health **logic model to identify short, intermediate, and long term goals** related to the development of a culture of consent and healthy relationships; selecting effective methods to reach these goals. (2018)
- **Bringing in the Bystander** trainings for student leaders in collaboration with USG. (2019)
- Launch in the fall of 2019 of a **required Affirmative Consent workshop**, delivered to incoming first-time, first-year students. (2019)
- Hired a campus sexual assault prevention specialist and three violence prevention educators to coordinate and provide primary prevention and education. (2019)

**AAU Task Force Members:** Winston Crisp, vice president, Student Affairs (co-chair); Sarah Van Orman, chief health officer, USC Student Health| Keck Medicine of USC (co-chair, PI); Gretchen Means, Title IX coordinator; Sam Cwalina, Graduate Student Government; Haley Garland, Undergraduate Student Government; Shafiqah Ahmadi, faculty, USC Rossier School of Education; Rima Jubran, faculty, Keck School of Medicine of USC; Mark Ewalt, executive director, Administrative Operations; and Nancy Chi Cantalupo, external consultant.

# Addressing Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct

## *Ongoing Efforts to Address Gender-Based Violence and Harm at USC*

Since the mid-1990s, USC has committed resources, personnel, programs, and policies specific to addressing gender-based violence experienced by students. In 2015, USC joined 27 other major institutions of higher education by participating in the AAU Campus Climate survey with a goal to better understand this issue on our campus. Since that time, USC had increased its institutional commitment to preventing violence by instituting evidence-based prevention programs, increasing support of

victims, expanding capacity to investigate reports, and revising policies to align with best practices and state and federal law.

USC is committed to ongoing efforts and continual improvement. In the spring of 2019, USC repeated the AAU campus climate survey as one of 33 participating institutions, as an effort to measure our progress. These data will be used to inform and enhance these efforts.

### Policy

- The Title IX office created a stand-alone **Student Protected Class Misconduct Policy** that addresses Title IX misconduct; policy incorporated changes recommended by students in 2015-2016 Task force.
- Expanded **training on policy and responsibilities to students, staff and faculty**; tracked all trainings on campus on Title IX subjects.

### Victim Support

- Increased the **number of therapists** who specialize in sexual trauma and other gender-based violence from 3 to 4. (2018)
- Adoption of **trauma-informed principles** in USC Student Health (2019)
- **Training of campus student affairs staff and faculty** in trauma-informed principles (2019)
- Creation of a **sexual assault survivor advocates program**, providing dedicated 24/7 on-call assistance to survivors (anticipated late 2019)

### Investigations

- Title IX Office expanded and **trained two panels of advisors** dedicated to serving Reporting Parties and Respondents.
- Title IX Office trained **students to participate on the Misconduct Sanctioning Panel** deciding sanctions for those students found responsible for sexual and interpersonal misconduct.
- Adopted the online platform **Callisto**, a system that allows students to record

their experiences of sexual misconduct and choose reporting options from their own laptop or phone. Callisto also has a unique matching function, allowing students to choose reporting to Title IX only after another student in the Callisto system has reported the same alleged respondent.

- The Title IX Office also increased staff from **two to three investigators** to better serve population.