

Year 4

Campus Climate Survey: 2018-2019

Description of the survey and rationale for conducting the survey

As part of our campus prevention efforts regarding the issues surrounding sexual violence, students have been asked to participate in this important survey. Sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, stalking and intimate partner violence, are significant challenges for universities nationwide and the Doane community is not immune.

Climate surveys can provide information about community perceptions, knowledge and attitudes relevant to sexual violence. Incident rates assessed via confidential or anonymous surveys can be another source of data about the extent of the problem. Regularly administering surveys can show changes over time, such as decreases in sexual assaults and increases in awareness or reporting. Surveys can provide information about the problem in a particular campus community, enabling schools to tailor prevention and response efforts. Conducting a climate survey can demonstrate the university's commitment to addressing sexual violence and build trust with students, faculty, parents and others.

Participants

- a) 166 students from the Crete campus participated in the anonymous, IRB-approved, online survey. Response rates varied by question.
- b) 62% identified as female, 35% identified as male, and 3% identified as gender spectrum.
- c) 24% identified as first year students, 20% as second year students, 29% as third year students, 24% as fourth year students, 3% other.

Perceptions

- a) Majority (84%) of students believe that sexual harassment is not tolerated at the university (9% disagree/strongly disagree, 7% neither agree nor disagree).
- b) Majority (84%) of students believe that the university would take a report of sexual assault seriously (16% disagree/strongly disagree).
- c) Majority of students (70%) believe that the university is doing a good job of trying to prevent sexual assault (9% disagree/strongly disagree, 21% neither agree nor disagree).

- d) Majority of students (68%) believe that the university is doing a good job of providing needed services to victims of sexual assault (10% disagree/strongly disagree, 22% neither agree nor disagree).

- e) 22% of respondents perceive that it is common for students to spread sexual comments, photos, or videos that people don't want shared, either in person or by text, e-mail or social media (33% neither agreed nor disagreed and 45% disagreed/strongly disagreed).

Training

- a) 61% of students reported that they were aware of and understood the university's procedures for dealing with reported incidents of sexual assault (22% disagreed/strongly disagreed, and 17% neither agreed nor disagreed).

- b) 66% of respondents reported that they have received training on Doane's sexual assault policy.

- c) 83% of respondents reported that they have received training on how to intervene as a bystander to protect other students from sexual assault.

Incidents

- a) 39% (n=60) of student respondents reported that someone has made sexual advances, gestures, comments or jokes that were unwelcome to them.

- b) 33% (n=47) of respondents reported that someone had unwanted sexual contact with them since they began their career at Doane.

- c.) 38% (n=18) of the student respondents who were sexually assaulted reported that someone used physical force such as holding them down, pinning arms, hitting or kicking them.

- d.) 40% (n=19) of the students who experienced unwanted sexual contact reported that they were unable to provide consent or stop what was happening because they were incapacitated, passed out, unconscious, blacked out or asleep.

- e.) 20% of respondents reported that someone has had sexual contact with them by threatening to tell lies, end the relationship, or spread rumors or continually verbally pressuring them after they said they didn't want to.

- f.) 70% of the student respondents who experienced unwanted sexual contact reported that they told roommates, friends or family members about the incident.

- g.) When responding to the question: “Who were the people who had unwanted sexual contact with you?” 1 student indicated that the person was a stranger, 3 students indicated that it was someone they had seen or heard about but not talked to, 21 students said they were acquaintances or someone they had just met, 1 said the person was a Doane employee who was not a professor or instructor, 10 said it was a current or ex friend or roommate, 9 said it was a current or ex dating partner or spouse, and 2 students said it was someone else (not indicated on the response options).
- h.) Students also reported that they are experiencing intimate partner violence. 5% (n=7) of student respondents to this question reported that an intimate partner threatened to hurt them, and they believed they might get hurt. 11% (n=14) of respondents reported that an intimate partner pushed, grabbed or shook them. 3% (n=4) of student respondents reported that an intimate partner hit, kicked, slapped or beat them up. 6% (n=8) of respondents reported that an intimate partner choked them.

Summary

Based upon the responses to the survey, a majority of students believe that sexual harassment is not tolerated at Doane, and the university would take a report of sexual assault seriously. Furthermore, a majority of students believe that the university is doing a good job of trying to prevent sexual assault. While these responses are encouraging, the university is always striving to improve.

The initial campus climate survey in 2015-2016 indicated that only 50% of respondents reported that they had received any training on policies and procedures relating to sexual assault. The 2016-2017 campus climate data indicated 65% of respondents received training on Doane’s sexual assault policy, and 63% of students reported that they were aware of and understood the university’s procedures for dealing with reported incidents of sexual assault. The 2017-2018 data revealed that 66% of respondents reported that they received training on Doane’s sexual assault policy, and 64% reported that they were aware of and understood the university’s procedures for dealing with reported incidences of sexual assault. The most recent 2018-2019 results indicate 66% of respondents reported they received training on Doane’s sexual assault policy, and 61% of respondents indicated that they were aware of and understood the university’s procedures for dealing with reported incidents of sexual assault.

It is important to recognize that percentages listed are the percentage of those who responded. The number of students indicating a specific response is generally noted when the percentage may be affected by a small response to a question. While it is also important not to generalize the percentages, it is valuable to recognize that any incident of unwanted sexual contact or violence is not acceptable.

Overall, results indicate that students at our Crete campus are experiencing incidents of unwanted sexual contact at rates above the national average. In light of increasing education and prevention efforts on this topic through the grant funded CAPE (Campus Advocacy, Prevention and Education) Project as well as the #MeToo movement and national discussion, it is possible that our students are gaining confidence in reporting through this anonymous, confidential survey. Sexual assault is an epidemic on college campuses nationwide. As previously stated, Doane administers its campus climate survey to assess perceptions, attitudes and incidents in order to prevent and respond to gender and relationship violence in its campus community. Doane is committed to an open and honest dialogue about issues facing college students across the nation, and specifically issues impacting students in our university.
