

Department of Gender, Women's,
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To: Gunes Koru
President, Faculty Senate

From: Mejdulene Shomali *MS*
Faculty Senator, Gender, Women's, + Sexuality Studies

Date: March 6, 2019

Re: Motion for Faculty Senate to Consider Title IX Language for Syllabi

On behalf of the Core Faculty and Coordinating Committee of Gender, Women's, + Sexuality Studies, I would like to propose that the Faculty Senate introduce a resolution to encourage the inclusion of Title IX language on syllabi as a new business item at our April meeting. The language we propose, below, was developed by the We Believe You student organization and was unanimously endorsed by the Gender, Women's, + Sexuality Studies Core Faculty and Coordinating Committee. The model language we propose is –

Disclosures of Sexual Misconduct and Child Abuse or Neglect

As an instructor, I am considered a Responsible Employee, per UMBC's Policy on Prohibited Sexual Misconduct, Interpersonal Violence, and Other Related Misconduct. While my goal is for you to be able to share information related to your life experiences through discussion and written work, I want to be transparent that as a Responsible Employee I am required to report disclosures of sexual assault, domestic violence, relationship violence, stalking, and/or gender-based harassment to the University's Title IX Coordinator.

Additionally, I also have a mandatory obligation to report disclosures of or suspected instances of child abuse or neglect. The purpose of these reporting requirements is for the University to inform you of options, supports and resources; you will not be forced to file a report with the police. Further, you are able to receive supports and resources, even if you choose to not want any action taken. Please note that in certain situations, based on the nature of the disclosure, the University may need to take action.

If you need to speak with someone in confidence about an incident, UMBC has the following Confidential Resources available to support you:

The Counseling Center: 410-455-2472
University Health Services: 410-455-2542
After-hours counseling and care available by calling Campus Police at 410-455-5555

Other on campus supports and resources:

The Women's Center, 410-455-2714 (for students of all genders, identities, and expressions)
Title IX Coordinator, 410-455-1606

This language is student-centered and intended to inform students of both their instructor's role as a Responsible Employee and direct students to campus resources that are available to them, and is in line with other resolutions approved by the Faculty Senate that encourage faculty to include statements about Student Disability Support services and academic assistance resources. I ask that the Faculty Senate introduce a resolution to encourage the inclusion of Title IX language on syllabi as a new business item at our April meeting.