

University Faculty Senate
168th Plenary
SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry
October 25, 2014

Resolution on Sexual Assault Prevention

Whereas, sexual assault is a continuing concern for institutions of higher education; and

Whereas New York State and SUNY are committed to taking great care in protecting the safety and well-being of all of its students, employees and personnel and to creating and maintaining a safe educational and learning environment free from all sexually related harms, whether occurring on or off campus; and

Whereas, the problem of sexual assault within college communities has gained increasing national awareness, including at the Federal Congressional level; and

Whereas, this increased awareness has led more colleges and universities to reassess the effectiveness of policies and enforcement regarding all Title IX violations and identify new approaches to prevention; and

Whereas, California enacted SB967 on Student Safety: Sexual Assault, commonly known as the “Yes Means Yes” law, in September 2014; and

Whereas, the State University of New York Board of Trustees passed a resolution, Sexual Assault Response and Prevention, on October 2, 2014, at the urging of Governor Cuomo, that will establish uniform policies and procedures across all SUNY campuses regarding sexual assault response and training; and

Whereas, the SUNY Board of Trustees, in consultation with Governor Cuomo, appointed Linda Fairstein to serve as a special adviser for the implementation of the sexual assault response and prevention policy; therefore

Be It Resolved that the University Faculty Senate endorses and supports the SUNY initiative on sexual assault response and prevention; and

Be It Further Resolved that the University Faculty Senate recommends to the Chancellor that SUNY System Administration and Special Adviser Linda Fairstein work in collaboration with the University Faculty Senate in the development and implementation of effective and fair policies and procedures to meet the goals of the Board of Trustees resolution.

168-01-1
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Passed without dissent