

Frederick Community College

Survey Administration

A taskforce consisting of the Executive Director of Planning and Institutional Research, the Research Analyst, the Title IX Coordinator, and the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion convened to update and edit the Sexual Assault Campus Climate Survey, previously deployed in spring 2016. After review by the President and the Senior Leadership Team, no changes were made to the survey administration process. In order to focus on the main objectives of measuring the perceptions of the level of safety and the general climate related to sexual assault and misconduct, the perceptions of the College readiness and ability to address issues of sexual violence, as well as increasing student awareness of how Title IX is applied, the survey was reduced from forty-three to thirty-one questions for clarity.

For the administration of the 2017-2018 Title IX Survey, the Office of Planning, Assessment and Institutional Research utilized Premier Team SurveyMonkey software, a platform in use by the department since 2014. Using PeopleSoft queries listing all students attending the spring 2018 semester, the data sets generated were filtered to exclude any student under 18 years of age. Due to the sensitive nature of the survey questions, the instrument was distributed electronically.

Survey invitations were issued to 5,043 students via their myFCC and secondary email addresses, if available. In order to capture respondents who did not regularly access email, an additional link to the survey, including a disqualification question to exclude those who had completed the survey via invitation, was also created. Responses were received from 260 students, which was five percent of all students surveyed.

In order to encourage responses, an announcement was posted to the College Blackboard landing page for the duration of the survey project. In addition, the survey was promoted in the News Blast, a newsletter sent to all students from the FCC Center for Student Engagement, and on the College Facebook and Twitter feeds. Using SurveyMonkey's email distribution reminder function, notices were sent to non-responding and non-completing recipients. After assessing the response rate, the Special Assistant to the President for Institutional Effectiveness extended the surveying period by one week and "last call" prompts were disseminated via Blackboard, News Blast, the College social media platforms, and SurveyMonkey.

The demographically identified respondent population mirrored that of the general campus population with white students accounting for approximately two-thirds. Females comprise 57% of the student population; however, they submitted 67% of the surveys. Ages of campus population vs. respondents varied greatly except for the 18-21 (46% campus, 47% survey) and 30-39 age ranges (both populations, 10%).

Perceptions of Safety and General Campus Climate

Question five of this year's survey had four prompts that assessed safety and the general climate in relation to how FCC handles incidents of sexual misconduct. For the first prompt, *"If I need to report sexual misconduct at FCC, I know a faculty or staff member who could help me,"* 78% of the students responded that they strongly agreed or agreed, 8% responded that they were neutral, and 3% disagreed. Twelve percent of the students responded that they "Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge." For the second prompt, *"I understand what happens when a student reports sexual misconduct at FCC,"* 69% of the students responded that they strongly agreed or agreed, 6% responded that they were neutral, and 0% disagreed. Twenty percent of the students responded that they "Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge." We are encouraged by the response to the third prompt, *"Addressing the issue of sexual misconduct is the responsibility of the entire College community,"* 92% of the students responded that they strongly agreed or agreed, 4% responded that they were neutral, and 2% disagreed. Only 2% of the students responded that they "Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge." For the last prompt in this question, *"I believe FCC provides an environment that clearly communicates that sexual harassment and misconduct is not tolerated,"* 79% of the students responded that they strongly agreed or agreed, 12% responded that they were neutral, and 1% disagreed. Only 7% of the students responded that they "Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge."

Results for the same four prompts in the survey conducted last year were aggregated in the report and 36% of the students responded positively, 19.6 % expressed disapproval, 15.4% of students were neutral, and 29% responded that they "Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge." The aggregated results for this year are 78% of the students responded positively, 2% expressed disapproval, 6% of students were neutral, and 15% responded that they "Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge." The College is encouraged by these results.

We were also encouraged by the student response to the question, *"Are you aware that FCC has a Title IX Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures which addresses sexual and gender-based misconduct?"* Last year, 62.1% of students reported that they were uncertain or were not aware of the policy and procedures, and 37.9% reported that they were aware of the policy and procedures. This year, only 10% reported that they were not aware of the policy and procedures, and 90% reported that they were aware of the policy and procedures. We consider this to be progress on our efforts to inform students of our policy and procedures. We were also encouraged by the response to the question, *"Are FCC procedures for reporting and addressing sexual misconduct easy to find?"* Last year, 76% of the students responded that they had never looked for them, 16.4% reported that they were easy to find, and seven point five percent reported that they were not easy to find. This year, 60% of the students responded that they had never looked for them, 40% reported that they were easy to find, and 0% reported that they were not easy to find.

Perception of Institution's Readiness and Ability to

Address Issues of Sexual Violence

Question six of the survey this year had four prompts related to the readiness and ability of the College to address issues of sexual violence. For the first prompt, *“FCC considers any report of sexual misconduct a serious matter,”* 80% of the students responded positively, 1% expressed disapproval, 3% of students were neutral, and 13% responded that they “Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge.” The second prompt, *“FCC protects the safety and well-being of everyone involved in the Title IX process,”* 76% of the students responded positively, 1% expressed disapproval, 8% of students were neutral, and 16% responded that they “Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge.” For the third prompt, *“FCC ensures fairness to everyone involved in the Title IX process,”* 74% of the students responded positively, 2% expressed disapproval, 5% of students were neutral, and 20% responded that they “Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge.” For the fourth prompt, *“FCC provides education and training related to Title IX sexual misconduct,”* 77% of the students responded positively, two percent expressed disapproval, 5% of students were neutral, and 20% responded that they “Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge.”

We are encouraged by these results and by the comparison of the aggregate results. The aggregate for the same prompts last year were, 36.9% of the students responded positively, 19.6% expressed disapproval, 15.4% of students were neutral, and 28.1% responded that they “Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge.” The aggregate for this year is, 77% of the students responded positively, two percent expressed disapproval, 6% of students were neutral, and 15% responded that they “Did not know/were uncertain/had no basis to judge.”

Institutional Steps

It is evident that the actions articulated in last year’s report have had a positive effect on our students’ perceptions related to sexual assault and misconduct. In addition to the seven recommendations put forward in last year’s report, over 800 people (500 first year high school graduates and 300 parents) were exposed to a comprehensive overview of the Title IX Policy and Procedures by the College Title IX Coordinator during the FY 2018 New Student and Parent Convocation.

Goals for next year:

- Continue to focus on new students and parents
- Continue to promote Safe Colleges online training during the year
- Continue the inclusion of fall and spring focused events on Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention, Title IX, and Wellness workshops to be offered:
 - Bystander Intervention Training
 - Domestic Abuse Support
 - Special focus on Veterans
 - Identifying and Avoiding High Risk Behaviors
 - Understanding Sexual Orientation

- Inclusive Language involving Sexual Identity
- Wellness Fairs offered each semester including community organizations with relevant support and information offering:
 - Education
 - Advocacy
 - Empowerment
 - Social Change
- Continue to support the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to offer more student focused discussions and sessions on issues of Sexual Assault, Bullying, Harassment, and Gender Equity
- Continue to be present at the Frederick LGBTQ Pride event with a College information table
- Continue the College partnership with The Frederick Center to provide sensitivity training to the College and community