

Worcester State University Sexual Assault and Violence Education FY19 Annual Report

Sexual Assault and Violence Education Task Force

Highlights

- Creation of SAVE logo
- Development of group purpose
- Cross campus membership
- Student membership
- “I ASK” Consent campaign
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month Programming
- Draft and redesign of pocket resource guide

Purpose

The Sexual Assault and Violence Education (SAVE) Task Force is a collaborative effort of individuals working together to coordinate sexual and relational violence education and prevention efforts campus wide. The Task Force is comprised of administrators, staff, faculty and students representing various campus divisions, departments and disciplines, who are committed to “cultivating a vibrant campus life... in which all members of the WSU community feel welcomed, included, respected, empowered and valued” (Worcester State University, Strategic Plan). Through campus wide programming, training and resources, the task force will help to provide a safe, healthy and supportive campus climate, free of sexual and relational violence.

Goals:

- Aid in the coordination of education and prevention efforts campus wide and across academic and student affairs.
- Promote education and awareness of sexual violence through trainings, presentations, programs and forums.
- Educate and raise awareness of the importance of bystander intervention and prosocial behavior.
- Support and promote programming which increases positive, healthy, mutually respectful student relational and sexual behavior, challenges student misperceptions about sexual assault and provides skills to aid prevention.
- Inform community members about intervention and support resources available on campus and in the greater Worcester community.

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- Provide best practice recommendations to the campus community around prevention, intervention and education.

Membership

The SAVE Task Force increased membership substantially in the spring of 2019 to include multiple departments, administrators, staff, faculty and student involvement. Due to an inability to attend meeting dates, some members are a part of an email membership list to aid in cross campus awareness of task force initiatives, communication and collaboration.

FY19 Members

Total: 18 members

Student Affairs: 7 departments

Athletics
University Police*
Residence Life
Title IX
Campus Ministry
OSILD
Counseling

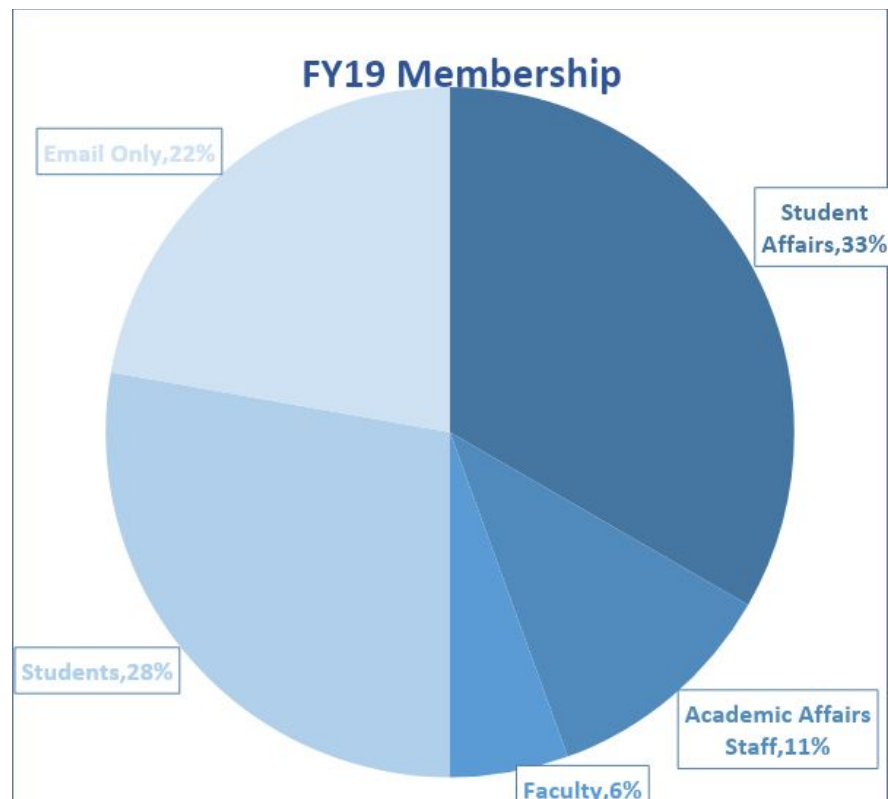
Academic Affairs: 6 departments

Admissions Office*
Women's Studies Chair
Urban Studies/staff
Nursing*
Communication Chair*
DGCE/staff

Students: 5

Resident Assistant
2 Athletes
Veterans Affairs
It's On Us President

*Email Only



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Meetings

The SAVE Task Force met nine times this academic year. Attendance varied from 6 to 14 participants. Topics of meetings included:

- Group purpose
- Logo
- Community/consortium updates from Violence Prevention Committee Meeting
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) Programming
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) Programming
- I ASK Campaign
- Victim advocate program needs
- Trigger warning best practice

FY20 SAVE Task Force Initiatives (*draft*)

- Develop consistent meeting time
- Increase faculty/academic affairs in person membership
- Pilot Program: It IS My Place FYS class debrief with student leaders
- Support student lead Take Back the Night Program- distribute resources One Love or domestic violence programming/training in October
- Contribute to development of Bystander Program
- Develop Faculty/Staff Guide for supporting students through sexual violence
- Redevelop sexual violence website information

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Violence Prevention Committee Meeting

The Worcester College Consortium Violence Prevention Committee Meeting consists of representatives from local area Colleges, Universities and community agencies involved in violence prevention programming on campus. The group meets to share resources and programming ideas, discuss trends, highlight best practices and triage barriers. The Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Counselor for Worcester State University is the current chair.

Membership

Participants from the following colleges and community organizations participated this past year:

- Anna Maria College/Residence Director
- Assumption College/Pathways for Change Campus Advocate
- Becker College/Counseling Services Director and Asst. Director
- The College of the Holy Cross/Senior Staff Psychologist & RPE Coordinator
- Fitchburg College/Pathways for Change Campus Advocate
- MCPHS/Asst. Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life
- Nichols College/Director of Community Standards, Deputy Title IX
- Pathways for Change
- Quinsigamond Community College/Dean of Compliance/Education, Title IX
- Victim Rights Law Center
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute/Asst. Director for Community Development
- Worcester State University/Sexual Assault Response Counselor and Director of Title IX
- YWCA Domestic Violence Services

Meetings

The group met six times over FY 19. Topics included:

- Summer/orientation programming
- Bystander intervention programming
- Clery reporting procedures

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- DVAM Programming
- SAAM Programming
- Sexual Violence Resource handouts for students
- Role of responsible employees
- Trigger warnings best practices
- Victim Rights Law Center presentation