Faculty: Fulfilling Your Mandated Reporter Status

Many faculty, understandably, do not feel comfortable dealing with issues related to sexual misconduct. If a faculty member believes he or she might be in a situation where a Vanderbilt student or employee is about to disclose something related to sexual misconduct the faculty member should remind that individual of the following: “As a faculty member, I can listen and help guide you to resources, but I am obligated to report any allegations of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. If you would like to report to a confidential resource, I can help you identify those resources. When you report to a non-confidential resource, like me, I have to share that information with the Title IX Coordinator so that the institution can determine an appropriate response to ensure the safety of the individual and the Vanderbilt community.”

Project Safe, which provides support to anyone affected by power-based personal violence and other forms of sexual misconduct, maintains a list of confidential resources, which is available on both the EAD and Project Safe websites. Those resources include clergy or medical providers acting in their professional capacity, the Psychological & Counseling Center, and the Student Health Center. Faculty members may call Project Safe hotline for assistance with the conversation with the student, or you may walk the student to the Project Safe Center, located at 304 West Side Row, in the Cumberland House. In addition to reporting the information regarding incidents shared with faculty to the Title IX Coordinator, faculty may also call Anita Jenious, the University’s Title IX Coordinator, with any questions about reporting requirements.

If a faculty member believes that a student or employee might be the victim of some form of sexual misconduct but does not feel comfortable addressing the issue directly without assistance, the college Deans and associate Deans are a valuable resource. “Our Deans all have training in how to address issues related to sexual misconduct. A faculty member should always feel comfortable reaching out to their Deans office for guidance in how to proceed in such situations,” noted Cynthia Cyrus, Vice Provost of Learning and Residential Affairs.

Important Phone Numbers

Project Safe
24-Hour Hotline: (615) 322-Safe 97233)

Title IX Coordinator/Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action and Disability Services
(615) 322-4705

Vanderbilt Police Department
911 or (615) 421-1911

Psychological and Counseling Center
The Psychological and Counseling Center offers individual psychotherapy as well as an ongoing support group for victims of sexual assault. For more information, visit their website or call (615) 322-2571.

Office of the University Chaplain & Religious Life
(615) 322-2457