

## Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Sexual Assault Awareness Climate Survey

### Introduction

The Sexual Assault Awareness Climate Survey was conducted at ACPHS from December 2015 – February 2016 as a collaborative effort between the Division of Student Affairs and the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. The purpose of the survey was to better understand the attitudes and experiences of students with respect to sexual misconduct including sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking. A 106 question instrument provided by the Administrator Researcher Campus Climate Collaborative (ARC3) was designed to assess students' personal experiences and to measure how strongly students felt that ACPHS serves their needs in preventing sexual misconduct. ARC3 is a collaborative of sexual assault researchers and student affairs professionals who came together to respond to the White House Task Force on Keeping Students Safe on Campus with the goal of developing a campus climate survey. Under the direction of Governor Cuomo, Education Law Article 129-B of New York State was passed on July 7, 2015 and became effective October 5, 2015. This law requires every NYS institution to adopt written rules addressing the prevention of sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking and to conduct a campus climate survey at least every two years. An executive summary of the results of the February 2016 survey is below:

### Demographics

This survey was administered to 1427 ACPHS students on both the Albany and Vermont campuses. There was a total of 544 anonymous respondents (38% response rate). The response rate for women was 66%, men 33% and gender non-conforming 1%. Respondents were between 18-23 years old.

### Student Awareness and Perception of College Resources

The following summarizes student responses to the questions:

*If a student reported an incident of sexual misconduct (415 of 544 respondents)...*

- 85% indicated the institution would likely or very likely support the person making the report;
- 77% indicated the institution would likely or very likely take action to address factors that may have led to the incident;
- 85% indicated the institution would likely or very likely handle the report fairly.

*Regarding knowledge of campus resources*

- 74% of participants indicated they were aware or extremely aware of the availability of counseling services to support victims of sexual misconduct (367 of 544 respondents)
- 58% of participants indicated knowledge of where to go to make a report of sexual misconduct (383 of 544 respondents)

### Personal Experiences

*The data shared below reflects participant's responses to statements regarding the frequency of experiencing uninvited behaviors (i.e. having been watched or followed; being left unwanted messages; having had rumors spread about them, etc.). The percentage range indicates that the behaviors were NOT engaged in or experienced at all.*

- Between 90%-99% of participants reported never experiencing stalking behaviors since enrolling at ACPHS. Of those who reported experiencing stalking behavior, the majority indicated it occurring more off-campus than on-campus.
- Between 97%-100% of participants reported not initiating stalking behaviors since enrolling at ACPHS. Of those who reported initiating stalking behaviors, the majority indicated the incidents occurring off-campus.

- Between 93%-98% of participants reported they never experienced dating violence since enrolling in ACPHS. Of those who reported experiencing dating violence, the majority indicated the behavior occurred off-campus.
- Between 97%-99% of participants reported never initiating dating violence since enrolling at ACPHS. Of those who reported initiating dating violence, the majority indicated the behavior occurred off-campus.

*The data shared below reflects participant's responses to statements regarding the frequency of experiencing uninvited behaviors (i.e. being taken advantage of when drunk; being threatened with physical harm; being held down by force, etc.). The percentage range indicates those who selected more than "zero" frequency (1-3 times) indicating that the behaviors were experienced.*

- Only 0%-2% of participants reported experiencing unwanted behaviors without their consent since enrolling at ACPHS. Of those who reported experiencing unwanted behaviors, the majority indicated the incident occurred off-campus.
- Only 0%-1% of participants indicated they have been a perpetrator of unwanted behaviors.

*The data shared below reflects participant's responses to statements regarding degree of agreement with statements describing sense of safety (i.e. on or around campus I feel safe from dating violence; on or around campus I feel safe from sexual violence, etc.). The percentage range indicates those who selected strongly agree or agree.*

- Between 74%-82% of participants reported feeling safe from stalking, dating violence and sexual assault at ACPHS.

### **Providing Support**

- Of those who reported being a victim of unwanted threatening behaviors, less than 5% indicated that ACPHS was not meeting their needs for support.

### **Understanding Consent** (302 of 544 respondents)

- 91% of participants strongly agreed or agreed with the statement "Consent must be given at each step of the sexual encounter."
- 94% of participants strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement "If someone invites you to their place, they are giving consent for sex."
- 93% of participants strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement "Consent for sex one time is consent for future sex."
- 91% of participants strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement "If you and your sexual partner are both drunk, you don't have to worry about consent."
- 90% of participants strongly disagreed or disagreed with the statement "Mixed signals can sometimes mean consent."

### **Moving Forward...**

ACPHS remains committed to both educating its community about sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence and stalking and reducing its occurrence. This baseline data provides ACPHS with an opportunity to enhance its strengths related to prevention, training and education efforts, while cultivating a more comprehensive understanding of future challenges.