A Resolution to Immediately Put Title IX Filers in Contact with U of A Cares and to Allow for Two-Week Academic Deadline Extensions

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Education’s Title IX regulation states that “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.”

Whereas, The Title IX regulation requires that universities extend accommodations to those who file a Title IX report.

Whereas, Presently, The University of Arkansas has no official accommodations policy in place for those who file Title IX reports.

Whereas, Upon submitting a report, Title IX filers are referenced to U of A Cares in order to discuss accommodations, yet the responsibility to inquire about various types of accommodations and academic support relies solely on the student.

Whereas, Filing a Title IX report is often a lengthy and draining process that can take an entire semester (or longer) to be completed. This undoubtedly takes a toll on students’ mental health and academic abilities.

Whereas, The current Title IX policies are not conducive to a student going through the process of filing a sexual violence report. Lack of explicit accommodations for filers (among other things) are often reasons why students do not report sexual violence to their campus Title IX offices.
Whereas, As an example, The U.S. Justice Department stated that less than 5% of sexual assaults on college campuses are reported to the campus, community, or law enforcement.

Whereas, In order to end sex-based and gender-based violence, it is imperative that the University of Arkansas stand by its commitment to create a safe and inclusive learning environment and extend acceptable accommodations to survivors filing Title IX reports.

Be it therefore resolved: That the University of Arkansas Title IX office automatically put Title IX filers in contact with U of A Cares in order to discuss accommodations immediately upon filing.

Be it further resolved: That the U of A Cares office offer automatic two-week deadline extensions for individual assignments (not including group work and tests) during the length of the Title IX process for survivors filing a Title IX report.

Be it further resolved: That the Associated Student Government Senate take a stand against sexual violence by fostering a comfortable and supportive learning environment for survivors of sexual violence.

Be it finally resolved: A copy of this legislation will be sent to Chancellor Joe Steinmetz, Title IX Coordinator Liz Means, Deputy Title IX Coordinator Shane Barker, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs Charles Robinson, and Senior Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students Melissa Harwood-Rom.

Amendments: ______________________________

Vote Count: Aye 35 Nay 1 Abstentions 3

Legislation Status: Passed X Failed _____ Other ________
Caleb Parker, ASG Chair of the Senate

Julia Nall, ASG President

4/20/2021

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