

**Georgetown University Law Center  
Student Bar Association  
2018-2019 House of Delegates**



January 29, 2019

**Resolution 2018-2019-16: Commitment to address sexual misconduct and establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention**

WHEREAS, in October 2017 the #MeToo movement catalyzed a national conversation about sexual assault and harassment; and

WHEREAS, the national dialogue about sexual assault and harassment challenged how institutions address allegations of sexual assault, provide survivor-centric support systems, and implement prevention measures; and

WHEREAS, the national attention surrounding cases of sexual assault and misconduct involving high profile individuals, from those in the entertainment industry to those in American politics, proved triggering to survivors of sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, according to Georgetown University's 2016 Sexual Assault & Misconduct Campus Climate Survey, 6.7% of female and 1.9% of male graduate students reported having been a victim of non-consensual sexual contact owing to force or incapacitation since entering Georgetown University; and

WHEREAS, 30.5% of female graduate students and 31.8% of male graduate students reported witnessing an inebriated person heading for a sexual encounter; yet among all bystanders who witnessed an inebriated person heading for a sexual encounter, 77.1% indicated that they did nothing; and

WHEREAS Georgetown University Law Center students can take concrete steps to effectively address the serious issues raised by the Campus Climate Survey and offer more robust solutions to prevent instances of sexual assault and harassment at the Law Center; and

WHEREAS, on September 6, 2017, the University published the Sexual Assault & Misconduct Task Force report and one of its eleven recommendations called for greater student ownership in fostering inclusive and respectful social cultures; and

WHEREAS, in October 2018 the Georgetown University Main Campus Faculty Senate approved language to include in Syllabi or Department Websites (Attachment 1) that addressed Georgetown's commitment to survivors and those impacted by sexual misconduct, sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, and stalking, as well as, articulated Georgetown's policy regarding reporting any instances of sexual misconduct; and

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WHEREAS, the Task Force recommended establishing a safety program at local bars, such as the “Safe Bars” program developed by Collective Action for Safe Spaces in D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the recommendation also suggested the University help subsidize the cost of the training to ensure adoption of the safety program in local establishments frequented by Georgetown University students; and

WHEREAS, Safe Bars training is estimated to cost between \$500 and \$1,000, depending on staff size and are designed to increase bar staff understanding of sexual harassment, and to equip staff with strategies to respond to unwanted behavior; and

WHEREAS, to date, approximately thirty-five bars in the D.C. area participated in the training;

THEREFORE; let it be resolved that the Student Bar Association, in fulfillment with the preamble of its Constitution, commit to the following actions and recommendations:

1. Affirm, as members of the Student Bar Association, our support for survivors of sexual assault at the Georgetown University Law Center and those within the greater Georgetown University community.
2. Establish the “Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention” (“Committee”) as Article VIII, Section 2 of the Constitution permits and
  - a. whose purpose will be researching and proposing sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual misconduct prevention strategies that the Law Center can adopt; and
  - b. will consist of one chairperson and five committee members appointed by the chairperson; and
  - c. will vote on a final set of recommendations requiring a majority vote of the committee, excluding the chair; and
  - d. should the Committee determine it has fulfilled its mission, a majority vote including the chair, can vote to dissolve the Committee or the Committee can be dissolved by a resolution supported by a majority of the members of the House of Delegates.
3. Olivia Hinerfeld shall be named chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Assault Prevention.
4. Request the Georgetown University Law Center, under the purview of the Committee, work with surrounding neighborhood bars, frequented by Georgetown Law Students, to certify under the “Safe Bars” program.
5. Request the Georgetown University Law Center adopt a requirement of Law Center faculty to include the Georgetown University Main Campus Faculty Senate’s language in their syllabi.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Sponsor

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**Attachment One:**

**Suggested Language for Syllabi or Department Websites**

*Georgetown University and its faculty are committed to supporting survivors and those impacted by sexual misconduct, which includes sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, and stalking. Georgetown requires faculty members, unless otherwise designated as confidential, to report all disclosures of sexual misconduct to the University Title IX Coordinator or a Deputy Title IX Coordinator. If you disclose an incident of sexual misconduct to a professor in or outside of the classroom (with the exception of disclosures in papers), that faculty member must report the incident to the Title IX Coordinator, or Deputy Title IX Coordinator. The coordinator, will, in turn, reach out to the student to provide support, resources, and the option to meet.[ Please note that (the student is not required to meet with the Title IX coordinator)]. More information about reporting options and resources can be found on the Sexual Misconduct Website: <https://sexualassault.georgetown.edu/resourcecenter>*

*If you would prefer to speak to someone confidentially, Georgetown has a number of fully confidential professional resources that can provide support and assistance. These resources include:*

- *Health Education Services for Sexual Assault Response and Prevention: confidential email [sarp@georgetown.edu](mailto:sarp@georgetown.edu)*
- *Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS): 202. 687.6985 or after hours, call 202.444.7243 and ask for the on-call CAPS clinician*