Western’s Title IX Coordinator

- Sue Guenter-Schlesinger, Vice Provost for Equal Opportunity and Employment Diversity, Title IX and ADA Coordinator, (360) 650-3307, Old Main 345
- Mohammed Cato, Assistant Director, Equal Opportunity Office, and Deputy Title IX Coordinator, (360) 650-3307, Old Main 345

Duties of the Title IX Coordinator

- Provide oversight and coordination with campus colleagues to eliminate and respond to sexual harassment and sexual violence, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects.
- Work with colleagues to review policies, programs, and protocols.
- Oversee all Title IX complaints.

University Work Group on Sexual Violence Prevention and Response

- Title IX Coordinator/Vice Provost for Equal Opportunity & Employment Diversity
- Senior Executive Assistant to the President
- Dean of Students
- Director, Athletics
- Director, Counseling Center
- Director, Prevention and Wellness Services
- Director, Public Safety/Chief of Police
- Director, Student Health Center
- Director, University Residences
- Faculty Representative
- Student Representative
What is Title IX?

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) prohibits discrimination based on sex in any educational program or activity that receives financial support from the Federal government. Under Title IX, discrimination based on sex includes sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, and sexual violence (sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, stalking). The law protects both students and employees. See Western's policy on Preventing and Responding to Sex Discrimination, Including Sexual Misconduct at: wwu.edu/eoo/policies.shtml.

Western’s Obligations Under Title IX

- Once Western knows or reasonably should know of possible sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, or sexual violence, it must take immediate and appropriate action to investigate or otherwise determine what occurred.
- If sexual violence has occurred, take prompt and effective steps to end the behavior, prevent its recurrence, and address its effects, whether or not the harassment or sexual violence is the subject of a criminal investigation.
- Take steps to protect the complainant as necessary, including interim steps taken prior to the final outcome of the investigation. Even if a student requests confidentiality and a full investigation cannot be undertaken, prompt action must be taken to protect the student.
- Provide a grievance procedure for students or employees to file complaints of sex discrimination, including complaints of sexual violence. These procedures must use the preponderance of evidence standard, and include an equal opportunity for both parties to present witnesses and other evidence, and provide both parties the same appeal rights. Western utilizes its Discrimination Complaint Procedure to investigate sex discrimination complaints, including sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, and sexual violence. See wwu.edu/eoo/complaint-procedure.shtml.

What is Sexual Harassment/Sexual Violence?

Unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature or based on gender, including:

- Unwelcome sexual advances
- Requests for sexual favors
- Other unwelcome verbal, nonverbal, cyber or physical conduct of a sexual nature or based on gender
- Lewd comments
- Sexual Assault
- Domestic Violence
- Dating Violence
- Stalking
- Sexual coercion
- Indecent exposure

If You Experience Sexual Violence

You are encouraged to contact Consultation and Sexual Assault Support (CASAS) at 650-3700, Old Main 585B (confidential) and the Title IX Coordinator in the Equal Opportunity Office at 650-3307, Old Main 345, who can ensure your civil rights are protected.

Additional Resources

FOR STUDENTS
- Counseling Center (confidential) — 650-3164
- Student Health Center (confidential) — 650-3400
- Dean of Students Office — 650-3706

FOR EMPLOYEES
- Human Resources, Domestic Violence Resources for Employees — 650-3771
- WA State Employee Assistance Program (EAP) — (877) 313-4455 (confidential)

FOR EVERYONE
- University Police/Public Safety — 650-3911 (emergency) or 650-3555 (report)
- Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services (DVSAS) 24-hour Helpline — (360) 715-1563 or (877) 715-1563 (confidential)

If the Affected Person does not want to File a Complaint

Western must still take reasonable steps to provide support for the person reporting and prevent future similar incidents.

RETALIATION PROHIBITED

Did you know...

Title IX and Western policy prohibit retaliation against individuals who raise concerns about sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, or sexual violence, or who participate in an investigation regarding these matters.