



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
W A S H I N G T O N , D C

April 3, 2017

TO: The American University Community

FROM: Robert Hradsky, Ed.D., Interim Title IX Program Officer

SUBJECT: Notification of a Title IX Complaint

On March 29, 2017, American University received a notice from the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR). It informed us that OCR received a complaint on August 29, 2016, alleging that the University discriminated against a respondent in a sexual misconduct complaint when it failed to promptly and equitably investigate a complaint filed against him in March 2016.

The OCR notice further states, in part, that "...opening the complaint for investigation in no way implies that OCR has made a determination on the merits of the complaint. During the investigation, OCR is a neutral fact-finder, collecting and analyzing relevant evidence from the Complainant, the University, and other sources, as appropriate."

AU will respond in a timely manner to OCR's request for data necessary to investigate this complaint. We believe that AU's policies and procedures are compliant with OCR guidance, and we strive for timely, fair and equitable outcomes in investigations. The Sexual Assault Working Group will continue to lead AU's efforts to improve our policies and procedures consistent with best practices.

If you have questions, please send them to TitleIX@american.edu. You may refer to the following links to learn more about the university's policies, procedures and resources.

[Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policy](#)

[Sexual Violence Resources at AU](#)

[Confidential and Non-Confidential Reporting at AU](#)

The [Title IX website](#) also includes information about:

- [Accused/Accuser Rights](#)
- [Student Conduct Procedures](#)
- [Criminal Procedures](#)