

TO: The Dartmouth Community at Large, including Administration, Faculty, Students & Alumni CC: Office of the President Interim Director of Health Promotion Aurora Matzkin, Special Assistant to Dean of the College Elizabeth Agosto and Sexual Assault Awareness Program

Coordinators Amanda Childress and Rebekah Carrow

FROM: Student and Presidential Committee on Sexual Assault

DATE: October 20, 2013

RE: Recommendations from the Second Annual Symposium on Sexual Assault

With the support of the Offices of the President and Dean of the College, the Student and Presidential Committee on Sexual Assault hosted the Second Annual Symposium on Sexual Assault at Dartmouth. On April 7, 2013, over forty students, faculty, staff, and alumni gathered to discuss the progress the College has made in the past year, including:

- Regular campus updates from the administration regarding efforts to address and reduce sexual violence at Dartmouth
- Implementation of the COS-SAR recommendations
- Near completion of the Dartmouth Bystander Intervention program design
- Staffing of a Special Investigator in Safety and Security for cases of sexual misconduct
- Increased opportunities for faculty First Responder Training
- Greek Leadership Council's new policy on standards of sexual misconduct
- Inauguration of a Sexual Assault Response Team
- Preliminary launch of a national research collaborative on sexual violence
- Funding of the SPCSA's pilot student research grant
- Formation of the Committee on Safety and Student Accountability (COSSA), whose research process SPCSA applauds
- Movement of Student Health Promotion & Wellness, which houses the SAAP program, to a more convenient location in Robinson Hall

The following recommendations reflect feedback from the Second Annual Symposium on Sexual Assault at Dartmouth, in addition to feedback collected from students at Town Hall meetings held throughout the year.



### 2013 SPCSA Symposium Recommendations

#### I. To the Administration:

The SPCSA, in conjunction with the student, faculty, administrator and staff attendees, recommends to the Administration, that they:

- 1. Design robust education programs for students on gender, sex, sexuality, and sexual violence. Mandate participation in these programs for First Year students, similar to a swim-test requirement, and provide follow-up programming over Sophomore Summer and Senior Fall.
- 2. Incorporate language of "rape" or equivalent wording into the Student Handbook and enforce a codified policy mandating that non-consensual sexual penetration will not be tolerated at Dartmouth College and will result in **expulsion** for students found responsible.
- 3. Encourage the Alumni Office to induct Alumni groups that organize themselves to support student led change.
  - Enable the dedication of funding into the sexual assault prevention and response initiatives demanded by current students.
- 4. Release institutional data on sexual violence at Dartmouth.
  - Create opportunities for student and faculty research using this data such as: providing a website that includes a comprehensive list of available information and a clear process for requesting data.
- 5. Support, financially as well as structurally, national sororities in their movement to become local both in the short run and in the long run.
  - The Dartmouth community views the barrier to localizing national sororities as primarily financial and asks the College to assist sororities in this transition.
  - Dartmouth lacks female controlled social spaces—an equal opportunity for Dartmouth students to spend time in sororities as well as fraternities can change that power imbalance.
- 6. Create structures to support students on Off-Campus programs.
  - Develop a comprehensive training and action plan that will protect students should assault occur on an off-campus program.
  - Mandate completion of trainings developed for faculty leaders of off-campus programs.
  - See our "Mini-grant Recommendations" below for further explanation.



## President Hanlon: The SPCSA, in conjunction with the student, faculty, administrator and staff attendees, recommends to our President, that he:

- 1. Consistently deliver firm messages to the community on the intolerance of violent crimes at Dartmouth, and in particular sexual assault. Include in this message a resolution to pursue all means necessary to end the plague of violence on this campus.
- 2. Attend annual events pertaining to students' experiences of sexual violence, such as Speak Out, Take Back the Night, and the SPCSA's Annual Symposia.
- 3. Speak openly about the reality of sexual assault at Dartmouth, the continuous efforts made by the administration to end it, and the support needed from faculty, students and alumni. In this vein, encourage the transparency of data among different parts of the College.

### II. To the Faculty

## The SPCSA, in conjunction with the student, faculty, administrator and staff attendees, recommends to the faculty, that they:

- 1. Educate themselves on the prevalence of sexual violence on college campuses across the country and at Dartmouth in particular.
  - Dartmouth's Sexual Assault Awareness Program provides further resources: https://www.dartmouth.edu/sexualabuse
- 2. Seek out First Responder training through the Sexual Assault Awareness Program (SAAP) and the Dartmouth Center for the Advancement of Learning (DCAL). Encourage their department and faculty colleagues to attend a training session together.
  - Please contact SAAP Coordinators Amanda Childress and Rebekah Carrow for details of upcoming trainings: <u>Amanda.Childress@Dartmouth.edu</u>; <u>Rebekah.Carrow@Dartmouth.edu</u>
- 3. Once First Responder trained, actively advertise it to their students.
  - Sexual violence committed against a student or someone he/she knows can affect a student's ability to perform academically.



# Dean Mastanduno: The SPCSA in conjunction with the student, faculty, administrator and staff attendees, recommends to the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, that he:

- 1. Encourage the Faculty to support student survivors of sexual assault through the following measures:
  - Ensure faculty are informed of the time and importance of upcoming First Responder trainings through all faculty meetings and communication.
  - Mandate first year advisors to become First Responder trained with the knowledge that first year students are considered to be at the most risk for sexual assault.
  - Encourage attendance of First Responder trainings through visible department based incentives that praise positive faculty engagement in student affairs.
  - Mandate that all faculty off-campus program leaders be, at the absolute minimum, First Responder trained with adaptations appropriate for the context of being abroad. See our "Mini-grant Recommendations" below for further explanation.

#### III. To the Students

# The SPCSA, in conjunction with the student, faculty, administrator and staff attendees, recommends to the students, that they:

- 1. Enforce standards of membership for all student organizations.
  - Introduce policy and by-laws towards enforced measures of accountability to perpetrators of sexual assault.
  - See recent Greek Leadership Council policy as an example: http://www.dartmouth.edu/~orl/greek-soc/glc\_sexual\_assault\_policy\_2013.pdf.
- 2. Seek out training, such as the Dartmouth Bystander Initiative.
  - In particular seek out programs that provide tips and resources to support a friend who has experienced sexual violence. Examples include: SAPA, Sexpert and Green Team.
- 3. Encourage the groups of which they are a part, especially ones of social or residential nature, to attend trainings together.
- 4. To the EMS student group: continue your work towards preparing yourselves to be first responders to sexual assault reports.
  - Furthermore, mandate completion of first responder and the EMT sexual assault training component in order to become a Dartmouth EMT.
- 5. Urge faculty and staff to complete First Responder training.



- Let faculty know how important it is to students that they are able to navigate difficult conversations in order to refer students to essential resources.

## Adrian Ferrari: The SPCSA, in conjunction with the student, faculty, administrator and staff attendees, recommends to our Student Body President, that he:

1. Carry out his proposals from his campaign to support the SPCSA, financially and programmatically, in its work to collect student feedback on sexual violence at Dartmouth and address student concerns.

#### IV. To the Alumni

# The SPCSA, in conjunction with the student, faculty, administrator and staff attendees, recommends to our Alumni, that they:

- 1. Educate themselves on the prevalence of sexual violence on college campuses across the country and at Dartmouth in particular. Excellent resources to that end include:
  - Current SPCSA members—reach out to us for more information on student experience. We are happy to talk with you. SPCSA@dartmouth.edu
  - Dartmouth's Sexual Assault Awareness Program: https://www.dartmouth.edu/sexualabuse/saap/
- 2. When on campus at Dartmouth, model behavior appropriate of perceived leaders.
  - Recognize the powers you hold, be aware that current students will observe your actions and assume they are a standard of the Dartmouth community and its traditions. Treat students, current and past, and Dartmouth's newest communities with integrity and respect.
- 3. If affiliated with a student organization, mentor students with a mission of reducing interpersonal crimes such as sexual assault.

# Martha Beattie: The SPCSA, in conjunction with the student, faculty, administrator and staff attendees, recommends to our Vice President of Alumni Relations, that she:

- 1. Work with the SPCSA to collect an Alumni Interest group to support students in their work to change social dynamics and end sexual violence.
- 2. Inform alumni of the steps being taken by the College at the same time as indicating ways for alumni to support student efforts.



### 2013 SPCSA Mini-Grant Recommendations

Note: The following recommendations reflect research conducted from the SPCSA Mini-Grant, in addition to feedback collected from SPCSA members at the presentation of their research.

### I. To Off-campus Programs:

The SPCSA, in conjunction with our 2013 Mini-grant scholars, recommends to Off-campus Programs that they:

- 1. Create a comprehensive and mandatory training for Off-campus program leaders.
  - OCP leaders are the main source of support for the well being of students studying abroad and are responsible for equipping themselves with the tools to respond to crises.
  - Provide tools and understanding to support all students of the program in the event of a crisis. The SPCSA notes that students can be traumatically affected indirectly by the assault of a fellow student.

### II. To the Sexual Assault Awareness Program Office:

The SPCSA, in conjunction with our 2013 Mini-grant scholars, recommends to the SAAP office that they:

- 1. Explore flexible options for completion of First Responder training, for example:
  - Create an online module for First Responder training.
  - Offer trainings tailored to specific department or groups.

With questions and concerns the SPCSA asks that you contact:

Will Scheiman, 2014: Chair of SPCSA William.M.Scheiman.14@dartmouth.edu

Sophia Pedlow, 2015: Vice-Chair of SPCSA Sophia.B.Pedlow.15@dartmouth.edu