
SFU STATEMENT
SFU is committed to addressing sexual violence through education and prevention programs, survivor support, and appropriate response to incidents of sexual violence. Sexual violence is a complex issue that requires coordinated intervention throughout our campus community. Everyone at SFU plays an important role in creating a culture of zero tolerance for sexual violence. All members of our campus community have the right to live, work, and learn in a safe and respectful environment free from sexual violence.

Following extensive community consultation, the SFU Board of Governors approved the Sexual Violence and Misconduct Prevention, Education and Support Policy in March of 2017. Some key points for faculty related to the policy, prevention, and support have been outlined below and you are strongly encouraged to review the complete policy: https://www.sfu.ca/policies/gazette/general/gp44.html

DEFINITIONS:

Sexual Violence and Misconduct
Sexual Violence and Misconduct is an umbrella term that encompasses a broad range of behaviour. It means a sexual act or an act targeting a person’s sexuality, gender identity or gender expression that is committed, threatened or attempted against a person without the person’s consent. Such behaviour may or may not involve physical contact. It includes but is not limited to: sexual assault, sexual exploitation, sexual harassment, stalking, indecent exposure, voyeurism, and the distribution of sexually explicit photographs or videos of a person without their consent.

Consent
Consent means a clear, ongoing and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activities. Consent is informed, freely given, and actively communicated as demonstrated by words or conduct objectively assessed. The policy outlines 6 important points about consent that are specific for our community, importantly one of those points is “consent cannot be obtained if someone abuses a position of trust, power or authority over another person.”

Disclosure
A member of the university community (ie. student, faculty, staff) shares with another community member that they have experienced sexual violence. This is not the same as a report. Anyone can hear a disclosure.
A member of the university community (ie. Student, faculty, staff) shares with the staff of the SVO that they have experienced sexual violence, with the intention of initiating a process. A report can only be heard by the staff of the SVO. The Sexual Violence and Misconduct Prevention, Education and Support Policy (GP 44) outlines the circumstances in which the University may be able to initiate a process.

RESPONDING TO A DISCLOSURE:
As faculty, SFU students or colleagues may come to you to disclose personal concerns that can impact their academic work. If someone discloses they have been impacted by sexual violence you can encourage them to connect with the Sexual Violence Support and Prevention Office (see below).

It is important that anyone who discloses an incident of sexual violence to you receives an empathic response (eg. I’m sorry this happened to you) as well as information about how to connect with the Sexual Violence Support and Prevention Office (SVO).

SFU’s Sexual Violence website provides some basic information about how to respond to a disclosure.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE SUPPORT AND PREVENTION OFFICE SERVICES:
This office to be established by October 1, 2017.
Any member of the SFU Community who has been affected by Sexual Violence can access confidential support, referrals and information from the Sexual Violence Support and Prevention Office (SVO) regardless of when the incident occurred or the parties involved.

Contact Information (as of October 1, 2017)
• Phone: 778-782-7233 (SAFE)
• Email: SVsupport@sfu.ca
• Website: www.sfu.ca/sexual-violence

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
Additional faculty and staff workshop information is also available on the website including information about the Responding to Disclosures workshop and the Active Bystander workshop. The Active Bystander workshop provides you with information to assist you in intervening in situations that may lead to or promote sexual violence.

Information about education initiatives and opportunities for students to engage in sexual violence prevention programs can be found on www.sfu.ca/sexual-violence