# Resolution of the Faculty Senate Academic Policies and Grading Committee Regarding the Inclusion of Statements on Mental Health and Sexual Violence on Course Syllabi

To: The Faculty Senate Executive Committee
From: The Faculty Senate Academic Policies and Grading (FS AP&G) Committee
Date Proposed to FSEC: March 13, 2019
First Reading to the Faculty Senate: April 16, 2019
Second Reading to the Faculty Senate: May 14, 2019
Approved by the Faculty Senate: May 14, 2019
Effective Date:
Whereas, the following information is provided as background material for the resolution:  The FS AP&G Committee held two meetings (February 4, 2019 and March 12, 2019) to discuss whether the recommendation should be that syllabus text be required¹. Faculty felt that many students do not read their syllabus as is and that mandatory inclusion in every syllabus would not be helpful. The best reason advanced against mandatory inclusion is that there may be more effective means to support University efforts to disseminate information about resources than in a syllabus. The University should explore multiple avenues to augment students' awareness of sexual violence and of mental health, such as through UBLearns or the registration process.  Therefore, be it resolved, that The Faculty Senate Academic Policies and Grading Committee recommends to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee that the following resolution be adopted:  Faculty should be strongly encouraged to include text, or include a link to text, in their syllabi informing students of the help and services that are available to them in the areas of sexual violence and of mental health.
Sent for Consideration on:

**Decision:** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See FSEC meeting materials copied into 3/26/19 FS Meeting Box Folder, presented by UB Student Association President Gunnar Haberl to the FSEC on Wednesday, September 12, 2018. The Statements are also included at the end of this document.



## **Syllabus Statement: Counseling Services (Mental Health)**

# Syllabus Text

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. These might include strained relationships, anxiety, high levels of stress, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, health concerns, or unwanted sexual experiences. Counseling, Health Services, and Health Promotion are here to help with these or other issues you may experience. You learn can more about these programs and services by contacting:

# **Counseling Services:**

120 Richmond Quad (North Campus), phone 716-645-2720

202 Michael Hall (South Campus), phone: 716-829-5800

Health Services: Michael Hall (South Campus), phone: 716-829-3316

Health Promotion: 114 Student Union (North Campus), phone: 716-645-2837

Found in the Course Development Tool Box on the UB Curriculum Webpage.



#### **Syllabus Statement: Sexual Violence**

#### Syllabus Text

UB is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic and dating violence and stalking. If you have experienced gender-based violence (intimate partner violence, attempted or completed sexual assault, harassment, coercion, stalking, etc.), UB has resources to help. This includes academic accommodations, health and counseling services, housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and assistance with reporting the incident to police or other UB officials if you so choose. Please contact UB's Title IX Coordinator at 716-645-2266 for more information. For confidential assistance, you may also contact a Crisis Services Campus Advocate at 716-796-4399.

## (Optional) Additional Text

Please be aware UB faculty are mandated to report violence or harassment on the basis of sex or gender. This means that if you tell me about a situation, I will need to report it to the Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. You will still have options about how the situation will be handled, including whether or not you wish to pursue a formal complaint. Please know that if you do not wish to have UB proceed with an investigation, your request will be honored unless UB's failure to act does not adequately mitigate the risk of harm to you or other members of the University community. You also have the option of speaking with trained counselors who can maintain complete confidentiality. UB's Options for Confidentially Disclosing Sexual Violence provides a full explanation of the resources available, as well as contact information. You may call UB's Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at 716-645-2266 for more information, and you have the option of calling that office anonymously if you would prefer not to disclose your identity.

Found in the Course Development Tool Box on the UB Curriculum Webpage.