

R2014-07

SUPPORTING SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS ON CAMPUS

STUDENT GOVERNMENT BOARD

University of Pittsburgh

23 September 2014

Introduced by Board Member Ben West and President Mike Nites

Co-sponsored by Allocations Chair Nasreen Harun (Student Representative for the Provost's Advisory Committee on Women's Concerns) and Board Member Graeme Meyer

- WHEREAS,** President Barack Obama and The White House launched a new sexual assault prevention campaign called "It's On Us";
- WHEREAS,** The White House Task Force to Protect Students from Sexual Assault will work with colleges and universities to develop best practices on how to respond and prevent sexual assaults;
- WHEREAS,** one in five women and one in sixteen men are sexually assaulted during their college career;¹
- WHEREAS,** eight in ten victims know their attacker and 40% of those victims fear reprisal by their attackers;¹
- WHEREAS,** only 13% of rape victims report their sexual assault cases to the authorities;¹
- WHEREAS,** the "It's On Us" campaign will create a cultural shift in the way we consider, discuss, and approach sexual assault;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, On this 23rd of September, in the year 2014, the Student Government Board shall become an active advocate for the "It's On Us" campaign.

Specifically, Student Government Board shall utilize its Wellness Committee to work with the University of Pittsburgh Sexual Assault Task Force to accomplish the following:

1. Produce a comprehensive and informative Student Affairs Marketing Video that can be played on the various TV screens on campus.
2. Assist in the promotion and participate in other student organization events. This includes initiatives taken by the Campus Women's Organization (i.e., "Take Back the Night" occurring on October 21st at 7:30pm in the WPU Assembly Room), Rainbow Alliance,

1. From the "It's On Us" Campaign Organizing Toolkit

Inter-Fraternity Council, Pan-Hellenic Association, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and the Resident Student Association.

3. Work with each member of Student Government Board to personally “Take the Pledge.”
4. Actively engage with the student body to encourage members to “Take the Pledge,” working with student organizations to set a target number of pledges.
5. Provide resources on the Office of University of Pittsburgh Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Education in the Student Government Board Office and on the Student Government Board website.
6. Work with the University of Pittsburgh Police Department and the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police to make all officers aware of the reporting policies in place surrounding sexual assault.
7. Work with the University of Pittsburgh Police Department to ensure students who are victims of sexual assault are properly notified of all services available to them.
8. Work to develop additional ideas in the upcoming weeks.

By increasing awareness, actively reaching out to students, aiding in student-run events, and providing resources in the Student Government Board Office, Student Government Board shall become an active role in reforming campus culture. Student Government Board shall work to promote positive change on this campus and have an impact on those who have been victimized by sexual assault.