

Agenda/Minutes

Date: June 3, 2021 Location: Zoom Time: 1:30 PM

Attended:

RLC: Angie Kistner, Chad Copple, Buster Leeck, Sarah Draper

SAFE: Cindy Addison, Alex Duffy (Title IX Confidential Advisor for KC)

KC: Jill A Hercules, Susan Batchelor, Laura Vahlkamp, Terri Sanders (Recorder)

I. Welcome and Introductions

CC: Chad Flannery had emailed that he would not be attending.

- Introduced Alex Duffy of SAFE
- Round robin introductions of the group

II. Title IX Regulations, Institutional Policy/Procedure Revisions

- CC: Probably the Title IX regulations will end up changing back to some resemblance of the way they were.
 - Rend Lake had gone ahead and revised ours last year, and we have not had to apply them yet.
- SB: We have the new policy/procedure in place.

III. Training Activities at Our Colleges

- SB: We initiated the first round of training with all of the Title IX team and posted that on our webpage.
 - What we need to do in the coming year is to make sure each of our people assigned to the different roles in the Title IX structure has additional training.
 - CC: Buster, Jenna, I, and a couple other folks were in webinars and trainings last year. We posted this information on online as well.
 - I received permission from D. Stafford to put their stuff up.
 - We will use the Everfi training module to deal with our students come this fall.
 - We talked about making that part of our first-year experience homework. I don't know that we have ever gone any farther down that rabbit hole. The completion rate on that stuff isn't very good.
 - We will continue to keep our eye out for trainings for Buster, Angie, Jenna, Kim, and myself, and whoever else wants to be a part of it.
 - We purchased the Robin Schwartz toolkit. Fortunately, we haven't had to use it yet.



- SB: You mentioned Everfi that you used last year for training. We don't have that. It that a price per student expense for your college?
 - AK: That was FTE, but when you buy the suite of products you get more than just the Title IX. It has a diversity piece, an alcohol training for athletics piece, it has a lot of all the hot button courses.
 - o It's an online module that students and employees have to click through.
 - I'm sure that's why the completion rate isn't phenomenal.
 - BL: It's terrible. AK: It's not that bad. It's better than the 70s films we used to watch in class – that's a point of reference.
 - SB: So, you use Everfi for employee education, also?
 - CC: We've used it for Title IX, HIPAA, FERPA, and a couple other things. Also, they are working on a mental health for students and possibly for employees, but I've not seen that.
 - AK: We are using 12 different modules of theirs, and we're going to roll them out once a month for mostly employee training to check some of the boxes like blood borne pathogens, PCI compliance, FERPA, HIPAA, mandated reporter. Something that employees can do on their own time.
 - We are going to put a couple of them as part of an onboarding experience so that they get that Title IX right away.
 - It's not hard to implement.
 - You are not getting a big bang for your buck because you have to continually remind people that they have to watch it
 - SB: We have a system call Safe Colleges that has the employee videos that you mentioned.
 - We've had it at the college for about 18 months.
 - There is a student module available that we have not purchased yet.
 - Our student education has been a combination of participation in New Student Orientation and email education. This is an area for improvement.

IV. Mental Health/Wellness Activities at our Institutions

- CC: We added mental health and wellness activities at our institutions. I know that's not necessarily a part of the mandate of the task force, but it seems like a good fit.
- SD: Cindy is coming back on the 16th, so we'll have a SAFE Advocate here (RLC) once a week in the summer and fall.
 - We have a Wellness Room now, which is a great place for students to go and take a deep breath. My office has moved over there so if they need resources or someone to talk to or if they need me to help connect them with a counselor or something like that, I'll be available.
 - We have ULifeline which is a free online mental health resource.



- In April, we had 120 visit the site. In May, 87.
- o In the spring, we had mental health 101 for students and we are having another one on the 15th.
- We also had an equity type training online for students via Zoom. It was more interactive. We've had speakers for the equity and the mental health 101.
- Somebody is coming in October to do a mindfulness toolkit workshop for students too, but I'm still ironing out the details.

- SD: RL Cares

- Before RL Cares and even now, a group of us who advise students, consult with students' career counsel resources, help with issues that need addressed or maybe they need something in the community, started to see a huge increase with the pandemic and everyone being online with communication being crazy.
 - We started to market that if anyone needed something to email RL Cares.
 - We had about 460 referrals in the spring
 - Last fall, we had over 500.
 - We helped students with everything from they need to initiate class withdrawals to they're having mental health issues to they need to borrow a laptop.
 - We would refer them to a person or department and a lot of times we would help them get what they need and check back with them later.
 - I think RL Cares is here to stay but it's taken on a different face.
 Now, we have people on campus who students can go to as well.
 - We will be utilizing both face to face and email contact to continue with RL Cares.
- SB: KC is looking at demos and presentation by companies that offer Tele mental health services.
 - We have reviewed three different vendors for these services.
 - We are in the process of taking a recommendation to our board.
 - We will be using stimulus funding to be able to purchase that for next year and make sure we have readily available mental health contacts and services for our students.
 - We have a first responders team called SWIFT and if a student is having a mental or behavioral health issue, we respond.
 - The responders facilitate a referral to our local mental health agencies, if need be. But, many times it takes two to four weeks out for an appointment and in some cases, they need someone right away.
 - With the new services we are looking forward to expanding our ability to connect our students to that kind of support, trained therapists or counselors, with messaging contact. Though our volunteer team has taken training, we aren't at that level.



V. Topics from Institutions for Discussion

- Kaskaskia College
- Rend Lake College
- Southeastern Illinois College not present today
- > SAFE
- SB: We are looking to bring our students back to campus in the fall.
 - o Not at the pre COVID levels. Our rooms are still social distanced.
 - During the time of being online, we have found out that online is not the preferred method for our students. We are looking forward to having them back on campus.
 - CC: I think we are starting to see things lead in that direction for our college.
 - BL: So, for summer we have all of our science classes coming back. We have a few of our developmental Ed classes coming back.
 - Right now, we have not limited capacities for summer or fall.
 - We are still showing a heavier online presence than what we had pre-pandemic, but our students are telling us that they want face to face classes.
 - There are a few exceptions, for whatever reason, they want to take art online.
 - They want to take speech online for obvious reasons.
 - We are going to definitely see a heavier on campus presence then we have for the past year.
 - AD SAFE: There is one project that we are doing in Mount Vernon in August that we are excited about. SAFE is going to hold a workshop with two different scenarios that walks everybody through what happens whenever a student and an adult discloses that they have been sexually assaulted.
 - We're going to invite DCFS to come and speak, individuals from the Police Department in Mount Vernon to come and speak, and other agencies.
 - We are in the process of finding a venue.
 - BL: When is that workshop going to be? Is that something you will share with us whenever you get everything firmed up?
 - AD: Absolutely, we are shooting for August 17. Of course, that could change depending on the venue, if we find the perfect place and they're willing to donate it to us.
 - BL: What kind of venue are you looking for? Are you married to Mount Vernon, or would you be interested in Ina if we could provide you the kind of space you are looking for?



- AD: I'm not married to Mount Vernon but married to Jefferson County. It's largely in response to the Open Blind Eyes book, so we want to focus there.
- BL: Ina is in Jefferson County. Depending on how many people you are thinking, for a really large venue we would potentially have the theater. It holds 350. It's not great for group work. If you are thinking a smaller group, we have some classroom space that you may be able to use. Buster gave Alex his email address.
- CC concerning SAFE: We are getting Cindy back on campus. She was with us for 3-4 weeks and then the pandemic and everyone was sent home.

VI. Miscellaneous Items for Discussion

- BL: Just as a reminder, I don't know how many people have gone in and don their annual refresher for Title IX, but that's coming up for me right now, so I'm getting ready to do all of those trainings again.
- AK: Susie, what do your enrollment numbers look like for summer and fall?
 SB: KC is ahead right now for summer and fall.
 - In credit hours up 2.3% for summer
 - We are really ahead for fall and it's because this time last year we weren't able to go into the high schools. Our numbers show that we are 46% ahead from where we were last fall, but we will catch up. We always do a spring registration in our high schools and when we compare numbers, we compare to this day last year and last year we had not been about to go into the high schools because of COVID. It would be awesome if they stayed at 46% above, but they won't. They will right size as time goes along, but we are ahead for summer.
 - SB: Were you going to enter into the Robin Schwartz consortium for Title IX advisor?
 - BL: We did not. I won't say we won't. It's a three-year commitment, but you can join at any time. If we wait a year and see that it looks like it's something we want to do, then we can. It's very affordable at \$300. The concern was being locked in for three years.
 - CC: WE took advantage of a couple of their webinars and bought that toolkit from them.
 - SB: I think SIC is going to participate and we had plans to participate as well. That still hasn't gotten off the ground yet.
 - SB: One thing that Chad mentioned early on is these new regulations. It's likely they have put a damper on folks' willingness to report because of how we have to adjudicate that, the different complaints.



- You always hope you don't get Title IX complaints, but then you think is there things going on that we don't know or that are not being reported. For me that is an underlying concern.
- CC: I think that live hearings are a deterrent.
 - Group discussed.
- SB: With Lisa Madigan (former Illinois Attorney General), have you heard any updates on the Illinois law?
 - CC: I have not.
 - CA: I have heard that Illinois law can supersede the federal mandates. I have heard in the past that if a school makes a decision to stay with what Illinois law says, it's not going to cause any rift.
 - BL: I can't imagine that the feds are going to let us have Title IV funds if we aren't following the federal policy. That would be my biggest concern.
 - CA: I'm going to a meeting tomorrow. I can ask more about that and get back to you.
 - CC: I haven't seen anything new come out since that PSVHE rolled out.
 - SB: It seems like the first or/and second year we received feedback when we submitted our annual report.
 - CC: I know that they are getting it because we aren't on their naughty list.
- KC will host in Fall.