



January 21, 2015

To the USC community,

I am writing to announce an upcoming survey that will help us assess student perceptions related to sexual misconduct and sexual assault, both at our university and in comparison with other schools.

USC is joining a number of elite research universities in a collective effort to survey students on this important issue. We will launch this campus-wide climate survey in April. We encourage all students to complete the survey. It is designed to estimate incidents and prevalence of sexual assault and sexual harassment, collect information on students' attitudes towards sexual misconduct, and gather USC-specific information on students' experiences with programs and policies. All of the information will be gathered and analyzed anonymously.

The survey follows a number of enhancements to our prevention efforts and the launch of several new university-wide initiatives to confront this problem. Among our ongoing efforts, we now require all incoming students to complete an online educational module on sexual misconduct and conduct training on sexual assault awareness, response and bystander intervention for students, faculty and staff. We developed the Sexual Assault Resource Center website as a one-stop source for information related to sexual misconduct, clarified our student code of conduct to align with national best practices and current legislation, hired a Title IX investigator to focus on these cases, and expanded the size and staff of the Center for Women and Men to provide support services.

All of us have a shared responsibility to create an environment in which sexual assault and misconduct is unacceptable. Thank you in advance for helping us spread the word about this important upcoming survey and encouraging all students to take the time to share their feedback.

Sincerely,

Ainsley Carry  
Vice Provost for Student Affairs