Office of the Vice Provost for Educational Equity

BIAS MOTIVATED INCIDENTS REPORT

Spring 2016

Posted on

Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Prepared by

Debra Simpson-Buchanan

MRC Counselor/Diversity Advocate for Students
Bias Motivated Incidents Report Discussion

- Eighteen reports were reported for the spring 2016 semester as compared to twenty-three reports for summer/fall 2015. The breakdown includes: University Park (thirteen reports), Altoona (one report), Berks (one report), Brandywine (one report), Harrisburg (two reports).

- One report from University Park was related to harassment, hostile attitude/environment, verbal comments, and noncompliance of faculty member to accommodate disabled student.

- One report from University Park was related to bias and intolerance from faculty to student.

- One report from University Park was related to unfairness from faculty to student.

- Two reports from University Park were related to written fax, email, note, text message, and hostile attitude/environment created from faculty to student.

- Two reports from University Park were related to verbal comments, physical intimidation and assault from faculty to student.

- One report from University Park was related to racism and nonwhite decision-making process used by the committee during an interview from student group to student.

- One report from University Park was related to written fax, email, note, and text message from student to student.

- One report from University Park was related to hostile attitude/environment created in the classroom from student to student.

- One report from University Park was related to graffiti, harassment, hostile attitude/environment, vandalism of property, written fax, email, note, and text message from student to student.

- Two reports from University Park were related to harassment, verbal comments, and bullying from student to student.

- One report from Altoona campus was related to written fax, email, note and text message faculty to student.

- One report from Berks campus was related to verbal comments, hostile attitude/environment created from staff to student.

- One report from Brandywine campus was related to verbal intimidation/assault, harassment, hostile attitude/environment created from student to student.
- One report from Harrisburg campus was related to verbal comments and hostile attitude/environment created from staff member to student.

- One report from Harrisburg campus was related to harassment, verbal/racist comments from faculty to student.
As always, confidentiality of identities and information was respected, unless otherwise indicated by the submitter or targeted person.

Multiple categories often exist for the status of Targeted Person, Race/Ethnicity, Targeted Issues, and Type of Offense. An effort is made to indicate one choice and which best describes an incident or individual, or how that individual may identify themselves. However, in some instances when appropriate and where overlap exists, more than one category is chosen and indicated. This accounts for the occasional slightly higher numbers within a category than the total number of reports given. In addition, two or more alleged perpetrators may act in concert, two or more submitters may report together on the same incident, and two or more targeted persons may be affected by a bias incident.

Each of these reports were followed up on and responded to.

Finally, the intended target for an alleged perpetrator may be more than one student, a student organization, the University community in general, or a subgroup of the community. Also, the number of targeted persons involved can be higher than the number of reports made or may not be able to be determined.

This publication is available in alternative media on request. The University is committed to equal access to programs, facilities, admission, and employment for all persons. It is the policy of the University to maintain an environment free of harassment and free of discrimination against any person because of age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, creed, service in the uniformed services (as defined in state and federal law), veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, marital or family status, pregnancy, pregnancy-related conditions, physical or mental disability, gender, perceived gender, gender identity, genetic information, or political ideas. Discriminatory conduct and harassment, as well as sexual misconduct and relationship violence, violates the dignity of individuals, impedes the realization of the University’s educational mission, and will not be tolerated. Direct all inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policy to Dr. Kenneth Lehrman III, Vice Provost for Affirmative Action, Affirmative Action Office, The Pennsylvania State University, 328 Boucke Building, University Park, PA 16802-5901; Email: kfl2@psu.edu; Tel 84-863-0471. U.Ed. OVP 17-11