



# Best Practice Priorities

Sexual Assault Prevention, and Compliance Task Force

**WESTERN NEW YORK HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM**

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The following are the results of the summer strategic planning session of the Western New York Higher Education Consortium's Sexual Assault Prevention, and Compliance (SAPC) Task Force. The results are presented in rankings based on the number of votes received. Each member of the task force was allowed to vote for their top six priorities, and the votes were coded to allow us to provide rankings based upon size and type of institution, as applicable, in addition to our comprehensive ranking.

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## MISSION OF SAPC TASK FORCE

We are committed to preventing sexual violence through educational interventions and effective processes. We seek to support the campus community holistically by creating an environment of enlightened dialogue and providing opportunities to share in best practices and resources, as well as current legislation and legal decisions.

## AWARENESS AND PREVENTION VISION STATEMENT

To serve as a community based educational convener that is dedicated to creating opportunities and resources that will engage the WNY Consortium of Higher Education and the larger Western New York community in an ongoing dialogue about sexual violence awareness and prevention.

## COMPLIANCE VISION STATEMENT

Through the sharing of pertinent resources, documents, and appropriate government and legal guidance, the Compliance committee will ensure that administrators have the proper information and tools to modify policies and procedures. We envision being able to share professional staff, documents, processes, and other best practices so as to protect campuses and students alike.

## COLLECTIVE TASK FORCE PRIORITIES

1. **Develop** comprehensive prevention plans that include robust, multi-tiered education at all levels of university, provided regularly throughout faculty, staff and student's tenure.
2. **Provide** comprehensive training on all aspects of sexual violence for campus administrators; campus law enforcement; health and counseling staff; faculty; staff; and student leaders that includes the dynamics of sexual violence, access to care, victim response, and federal/state statutes.
3. **Develop** a coordinated, seamless victim-centered response service between campus and community resources that offer options.
4. **Sharing** lessons learned: all local institutions should dedicate staff time to participating in regional consortium efforts.
5. **Develop** a policy statement and directive from the president/chancellor of the institution that demonstrates recognition of sexual violence as a problem, a commitment to reduce its occurrence and action steps for the campus community.  
**Educate** disciplinary boards on non-stranger assaults, perpetrator patterns and possible victim responses (neurobiology of trauma) patterns.
6. **Prevention** programing, including online training, should be mandated for all students and employees.  
**A detailed plan** for prevention programming should be developed based on the specific needs and strengths of the institution, with a clear process and timetable for implementation.  
**Incorporate** title IX language, key resources, and information on accommodations into syllabus statement required school-wide.  
**Revise**, enforce and widely distribute disciplinary regulations in the student code that demonstrates an intolerance of all forms of sexual violence and implement sanctions for violations by faculty, staff and students.
7. **Institutions** should employ highly-qualified prevention professionals by identifying key skill sets, promoting diversity in hiring, maintaining the stability and morale of staff positions and providing ongoing training.  
**Institutions** should identify, develop and enhance productive partnerships, aligning with the values and interests of campus stakeholders, local community groups, state and national organizations in order to develop a shared vision for prevention.  
**Campuses** should have a dedicated, easy access website for prevention.
8. **Policies** regarding alcohol, drugs and sexual misconduct should be regularly reviewed, revised, distributed and enforced.  
**Regularly** market the availability of protocols on campus websites for all campus members to access resources, referrals, and helping strategies for victims of sexual violence.  
**Integrate** sexual violence prevention education into curricular and non-curricular activities.
9. **Policies**, procedures and resource information should be widely promoted and accessible. The information should be clear and factual.
10. **Research** and assessment should be prioritized, planned and enacted. The research should be supported, funded, programs should be tracked and improved with data and the findings widely disseminated, using data to better understand sexual violence and student needs.

## COMMUNITY PARTNER PRIORITIES

1. **Provide** comprehensive training on all aspects of sexual violence for campus administrators; campus law enforcement; health and counseling staff; faculty; staff; and student leaders that includes the dynamics of sexual violence, access to care, victim response, and federal/state statutes.

**Develop** comprehensive prevention plans that include robust, multi-tiered education at all levels of university, provided regularly throughout faculty, staff and student's tenure.

**Develop** a policy statement and directive from the president/chancellor of the institution that demonstrates recognition of sexual violence as a problem, a commitment to reduce its occurrence and action steps for the campus community.

2. **Develop** a coordinated, seamless victim-centered response service between campus and community resources that offer options.

3. **Regularly** market the availability of protocols on campus websites for all campus members to access resources, referrals, and helping strategies for victims of sexual violence.

**Institutions** should identify, develop and enhance productive partnerships, aligning with the values and interests of campus stakeholders, local community groups, state and national organizations in order to develop a shared vision for prevention.

**A detailed plan** for prevention programming should be developed based on the specific needs and strengths of the institution, with a clear process and timetable for implementation.

**Revise**, enforce and widely distribute disciplinary regulations in the student code that demonstrates an intolerance of all forms of sexual violence and implement sanctions for violations by faculty, staff and students.

**Educate** disciplinary boards on non-stranger assaults, perpetrator patterns and possible victim responses (neurobiology of trauma) patterns.

4. **Prevention** programming, including online training, should be mandated for all students and employees.

**Institutions** should employ highly-qualified prevention professionals by identifying key skill sets, promoting diversity in hiring, maintaining the stability and morale of staff positions and providing ongoing training.

**Campuses** should have a dedicated, easy access website for prevention.

**Incorporate** Title IX language, key resources, and information on accommodations into syllabus statement required school-wide.

**Sharing** lessons learned: all local institutions should dedicate staff time to participating in regional consortium efforts.

## SMALL PRIVATE INSTITUTION PRIORITIES (<2,000 ENROLLED)

1. **Provide** comprehensive training on all aspects of sexual violence for campus administrators; campus law enforcement; health and counseling staff; faculty; staff; and student leaders that includes the dynamics of sexual violence, access to care, victim response, and federal/state statutes.  
**Develop** comprehensive prevention plans that include robust, multi-tiered education at all levels of university, provided regularly throughout faculty, staff and student's tenure.  
**A detailed plan** for prevention programming should be developed based on the specific needs and strengths of the institution, with a clear process and timetable for implementation.  
**Develop** a coordinated, seamless victim-centered response service between campus and community resources that offer options.
2. **Integrate** sexual violence prevention education into curricular and non-curricular activities.  
**Campuses** should have a dedicated, easy access website for prevention.  
**Incorporate** title IX language, key resources, and information on accommodations into syllabus statement required school-wide.  
**Sharing** lessons learned: all local institutions should dedicate staff time to participating in regional consortium efforts.

## LARGE PRIVATE INSTITUTION PRIORITIES (>2,000 ENROLLED)

1. **Provide** comprehensive training on all aspects of sexual violence for campus administrators; campus law enforcement; health and counseling staff; faculty; staff; and student leaders that includes the dynamics of sexual violence, access to care, victim response, and federal/state statutes.

**Sharing** lessons learned: all local institutions should dedicate staff time to participating in regional consortium efforts.

2. **Develop** comprehensive prevention plans that include robust, multi-tiered education at all levels of university, provided regularly throughout faculty, staff and student's tenure.
3. **Prevention** programming, including online training, should be mandated for all students and employees.

**Institutions** should identify, develop and enhance productive partnerships, aligning with the values and interests of campus stakeholders, local community groups, state and national organizations in order to develop a shared vision for prevention.

**Incorporate** title IX language, key resources, and information on accommodations into syllabus statement required school-wide.

**Research** and assessment should be prioritized, planned and enacted. The research should be supported, funded, programs should be tracked and improved with data and the findings widely disseminated, using data to better understand sexual violence and student needs.

**Educate** disciplinary boards on non-stranger assaults, perpetrator patterns and possible victim responses (neurobiology of trauma) patterns.

**Develop** a coordinated, seamless victim-centered response service between campus and community resources that offer options.

4. **Integrate** sexual violence prevention education into curricular and non-curricular activities.

**Institutions** should employ highly-qualified prevention professionals by identifying key skill sets, promoting diversity in hiring, maintaining the stability and morale of staff positions and providing ongoing training.

**Regularly** market the availability of protocols on campus websites for all campus members to access resources, referrals, and helping strategies for victims of sexual violence.

**A detailed plan** for prevention programming should be developed based on the specific needs and strengths of the institution, with a clear process and timetable for implementation.

**Campuses** should have a dedicated, easy access website for prevention.

**Revise**, enforce and widely distribute disciplinary regulations in the student code that demonstrates an intolerance of all forms of sexual violence and implement sanctions for violations by faculty, staff and students.

**Research** and assessment should be prioritized, planned and enacted. The research should be supported, funded, programs should be tracked and improved with data and the findings widely disseminated, using data to better understand sexual violence and student needs.

**Educate** disciplinary boards on non-stranger assaults, perpetrator patterns and possible victim responses (neurobiology of trauma) patterns.

## LARGE PUBLIC INSTITUTION PRIORITIES ( $\geq 5,000$ STUDENTS ENROLLED)

1. **Develop** comprehensive prevention plans that include robust, multi-tiered education at all levels of university, provided regularly throughout faculty, staff and student's tenure.
2. **Educate** disciplinary boards on non-stranger assaults, perpetrator patterns and possible victim responses (neurobiology of trauma) patterns.
3. **Provide** comprehensive training on all aspects of sexual violence for campus administrators; campus law enforcement; health and counseling staff; faculty; staff; and student leaders that includes the dynamics of sexual violence, access to care, victim response, and federal/state statutes.

**Prevention** programing, including online training, should be mandated for all students and employees.

**Institutions** should employ highly-qualified prevention professionals by identifying key skill sets, promoting diversity in hiring, maintaining the stability and morale of staff positions and providing ongoing training.

**Develop** a policy statement and directive from the president/chancellor of the institution that demonstrates recognition of sexual violence as a problem, a commitment to reduce its occurrence and action steps for the campus community.

**Revise**, enforce and widely distribute disciplinary regulations in the student code that demonstrates an intolerance of all forms of sexual violence and implement sanctions for violations by faculty, staff and students.

**Develop** a coordinated, seamless victim-centered response service between campus and community resources that offer options.

4. **Integrate** sexual violence prevention education into curricular and non-curricular activities.

**Campuses** should have a dedicated, easy access website for prevention.

**Incorporate** title IX language, key resources, and information on accommodations into syllabus statement required school-wide.

**Policies** regarding alcohol, drugs and sexual misconduct should be regularly reviewed, revised, distributed and enforced.



## ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Certain best practices, such as Universal Screening for Sexual Violence, were universally acknowledged as being a supported best practice for our region, but failed to make it into the top priorities due to the fact that many of our area colleges do not have health centers, and some that do have already implemented this practice (University at Buffalo).
- On-Campus Advocates are an emerging Best Practice, though at the time of our strategic planning session there was not sufficient evidence base to include it on our list of best practices. Since that time, the data collected at area colleges supporting an On-Campus Advocate have shown strong evidence of the effectiveness of having an On-Campus Advocate.