March 4, 2016

MEMORANDUM

To: GC Community

From: President Chase F. Robinson

Topic: CUNY’s Policy on Sexual Misconduct

On December 1, 2014, the CUNY Board of Trustees adopted a revised policy on sexual misconduct based on recent amendments to federal and state law. CUNY Policy 7.142 applies to all CUNY students and employees, as well as to any third party individual present at a CUNY campus or function who is not a CUNY student or employee. The policy, a very informative description of our responsibility as a community to eradicate harassment and discrimination in the academic environment, is here: http://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/ia/Policy-on-Sexual-Misconduct-12-1-14-with-links.pdf.

I take this opportunity to remind everyone of the Graduate Center’s obligation, under Title IX and its implementing regulations, to ensure that no individual is subjected to gender or sexual discrimination or harassment in the context of any Center program or activity. Unacceptable behavior can span a spectrum of conduct, from obsessive demands for attention, to cyber stalking, suggestive or demeaning comments, to sexual violence or unwanted physical contact of any sort. Discrimination can take verbal, nonverbal or physical form. Unwelcome conduct, dating or domestic violence, stalking and other adverse behaviors rooted in sexual harassment or gender distain, creates a “hostile environment” which, when severe or pervasive, limits or interferes with a student’s ability to participate in educational activities or an employee’s ability to perform his or her duties.

The following Graduate Center officials remain available to respond to allegations of any such misconduct. They will take prompt steps to investigate the situation and are empowered to take a variety of steps to address conditions of harassment, discrimination and/or violence:

- Chief Diversity Officer/Title IX Coordinator - Edith Rivera, Rm. 7301, 212-817-7410
- Campus Director of Public Safety - John Flaherty, Rm. 9117, 212-817-7761


- Vice President for Student Affairs - Matthew Schoengood, Rm. 7301, 212-817-7400
- Executive Director of Human Resources – Ella Kiselyuk, Rm. 8403, 212-817-7700

In addition, the Graduate Center is taking steps to ensure that all management and supervisory staff is trained and able to respond to complaints of unacceptable behavior that may occur on campus or during GC-sponsored functions or activities. Further details will be issued shortly.

CUNY’s Policy on Sexual Misconduct, the Student Bill of Rights and Responsible Employees FAQs, along with information about bystander intervention, available resources, the meaning of ‘consent’ and what to do if you experience or observe unacceptable behavior can be found on the Graduate Center’s dedicated Title IX Awareness website at: http://www.gc.cuny.edu/TitleIX. Do take the time to visit.

c: Dean Mary Pearl, Macaulay Honors College
   Dean Ayman El-Mohandes, School of Public Health