



Erin Barker-Brown
Office for Civil Rights
Cleveland Office
U.S. Department of Education
1350 Euclid Avenue, Suite 325
Cleveland, OH 44115

December 15, 2015

**Re: The Ohio State University Resolution Agreement
Thirteenth Progress Report**

Dear Ms. Barker-Brown,

Pursuant to the Resolution Agreement entered into by the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and The Ohio State University (Ohio State), Ohio State committed to report on progress towards meeting the various requirements outlined in the Agreement. This letter serves as our thirteenth such report.

ITEMS IN PROGRESS

Section IV.G: Training (Agreement p.10)

Requirement: Item IV.G of the Resolution Agreement requires the university to identify additional training needed for specific groups, including but not limited to, fraternities, sororities, band, cheerleaders, and athletes based on assessments made by the Title IX Coordinator based on actions outlined in Item V (A-D).

Response:

In the university's January 15, 2015 progress report, we identified additional training needed for specific groups through a review of complaints received during the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 academic years. Those recommendations included increased awareness and prevention programming for residence life staff, faculty, graduate assistants, teaching assistance, sorority and fraternity life, and athletics. Since the January 15 report, the university has begun to implement training through online training modules for faculty, staff, students, and student employees, as well as to engage in additional instructor-led training through the Office of Human Resources, the Sexual Civility and Empowerment Program in the Student Life Student Advocacy Office, and the Office of University Compliance and Integrity. An account of the training provided by the university to these groups in the 2014-2015 academic year was provided in the university's November 30, 2015 progress report.

In the university's October 15, 2015 progress report, we provided the results of the university's 2015 climate survey and outlined the university's plan for response to the high rates of incidence of sexual violence in our community through the Buckeyes ACT Initiative. This initiative outlines Ohio State's comprehensive plan to combat sexual misconduct and relationship violence, including strengthening existing programs and launching new efforts around awareness and prevention education, bystander intervention, and advocacy and support services. The survey results provided the university with unique insight into the needs of our community, and we identified the need to focus awareness and prevention

efforts toward our LGBTQ students, ROTC students, graduate and professional students, and students attending our regional campuses, in addition to high-risk groups that have previously been identified. To this end, the university is undertaking a comprehensive review of our programming model to accommodate the needs of our various populations, including engaging faculty and community experts in sex and gender discrimination. The goal is to operationalize the new programming model in the 2016-2017 year, and we will continue to engage in our current online and instructor-led training efforts during the current academic year.

Finally, the university has mandated training for all incoming students beginning in the 2016-2017 academic year, as part of the Buckeyes ACT Initiative. This training will include a mix of online modules and instructor-led courses in the First Year Experience Series, to maximize the reach of these messages beyond our at-risk populations. It will also be incorporated into the Second Year Transformational Education (STEP) programming to provide continuing education to our sophomores, as we learned that second-year undergraduate female students are at equal risk for sexual violence as first-year students.

We believe that this response constitutes full compliance with all requirements defined in Section III.C of the Resolution Agreement.

Ohio State will continue to demonstrate its long-standing commitment to vigorously addressing sexual assault and sexual harassment on its campuses, including by taking effective steps to stop sexual misconduct, prevent its recurrence, eliminate any hostile environment, and remedy its discriminatory effects. We will continue to meet our requirements under the Resolution Agreement, and report progress to you.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kellie Brennan
Title IX Coordinator

cc: President Michael V. Drake, M.D.
Christopher Culley, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Senior Advisor to the President
Gates Garrity-Rokous, Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer