

Anti-Harassment Report to SSSP
Submitted July 27th, 2023
Chair, Tracy Peressini, Renison University College

August 6th, 2022

On August 6th, 2022 I met with the Past Chair of the Committee, Sarah Jane Baker, to discuss action items moving forward to the next term. At that time, she made several suggestions for potential action items in 2023. The list of action items discussed during the meeting includes:

1. A re-examination of the policy to prioritize privacy and anonymity for all involved parties.
2. Exploring various pathways of reporting to make the process more accessible and user-friendly.
3. Implementing quality control measures and categorizing reports to ensure their authenticity and credibility.
4. Conducting a climate survey to gather feedback from conference participants on the committee's engagement.
5. Organizing committee training and workshops to enhance members' skills and knowledge.
6. Hosting conference sessions focused on addressing harassment-related issues.
7. Finding ways to actively involve students in the committee's activities and decision-making process.
8. Considering the option of hiring or retaining a permanent Ombudsperson and Investigator to ensure ongoing support and investigative expertise.

June 28th, 2023 Pre-Conference Meeting

On June 28th, 2023, a meeting with the committee took place to plan the upcoming conference. It's worth noting that previous attempts at planning meetings encountered challenges and this was the first opportunity we had to meet. While some of the action items mentioned earlier were discussed, the focus of our conversation revolved around fostering a cultural shift centered on raising awareness about the committee's presence at key meeting events. We explored various ideas, including creating informational signage, eye-catching posters, and informative flyers to promote the meetings effectively. We also emphasized the importance of both committee and membership support, allocating resources, and providing adequate training to increase the committee's visibility and engagement at future gatherings. Finally, two key decisions made during the meeting was the unanimous agreement on having a dedicated physical space at the conferences, which attendees could easily identify and connect with. Steps were taken towards securing such a space to enhance the committee's accessibility and approachability. The second was to organize a brief meeting with the committee to address the above action items moving forward.

It should be noted that I have since stepped down as Chair of the committee. I would like to thank the SSSP for this opportunity to serve.

Respectfully submitted,
Tracy Peressini