What to Expect as a Complainant During the Title IX Informal Resolution Process

Title IX is a segment of the Education Amendments of 1972 that prohibits exclusion or discrimination on the basis of gender from any federal funded education program or activity. Title IX Training and Investigations in the Office of the Dean of Students (Investigations) at The University of Texas at Austin is obligated to thoroughly investigate all allegations of Title IX violations. This includes allegations of sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence and sexual misconduct.

**Investigator Role:**
- Two investigators serve as neutral third-party administrators who will determine the facts involved in the case and whether an alleged violation of the University’s *Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities (Institutional Rules)*, and/or University policy meets the standard for an informal resolution process.
- Our main goal is to gather factual information through the course of this process and make a recommendation for resolution. We will ask difficult questions, which at times may feel uncomfortable.
- If it is determined that circumstances would be more appropriately resolved through a formal investigation process, the Title IX Coordinator, or their designee, may elect to pursue a formal investigation process.

**Title IX Informal Resolution Process:**
- The investigators will meet with the Complainant, Respondent as part of the informal resolution process.
- A *No Contact Directive* will be issued at the beginning of the informal resolution process, and will remain in place for the duration of a student’s enrollment with the university.
- All parties involved will have an equal opportunity to discuss their knowledge of the situation.
- The investigators will review the information gathered throughout the course of the informal resolution process.
- The investigators will update the Complainant and Respondent about the status of the case throughout the course of the process.

**Student Rights during the Title IX Informal Resolution Process:**
- To receive a prompt, fair and impartial resolution.
- To elect to file a formal complaint and switch to the formal investigation process.
- To receive information and ask questions pertaining to the Title IX informal resolution process or formal investigation process.
- To have an Adviser present during all meetings.
- To chose not to actively participate in the investigation process.
- To file a complaint with local and/or campus law enforcement authorities.
- To be informed of and have access to campus services, including confidential resources.

**Resolution:**
- The investigators may recommend the following types of outcomes, where appropriate: facilitating an agreement between the Complainant and Respondent, separating the parties, referring the parties to counseling programs, conducting targeted educational and training programs, and mediation.
- Agreements reached will be final and cannot be appealed.
- If the Complainant and Respondent fail to reach a mutually agreeable outcome, the informal resolution process will end and the formal investigation process will start.
Student Privacy:
• Information received by Title IX and shared with a student will be handled in accordance with the regulations established by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which can be found at http://registrar.utexas.edu/staff/ferpa, and the Department of Education’s Family Policy Compliance Office.

Campus Carry Policy:
• The entire Student Services Building is excluded from the concealed carry of handguns.

IF YOU ELECT NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TITLE IX INVESTIGATION PROCESS, YOU MUST NOTIFY TITLE IX.

I acknowledge that I have read, reviewed and received notice of my rights and responsibilities as part of the Title IX investigation process at the University of Texas at Austin. I also understand that my signature does not presume responsibility of a violation of the Institutional Rules on Student Services and Activities.

__________________________________________________________________________  ______________________________________  __________________________
Student Name                                                                 Student Signature                                                                         Date

__________________________________________________________________________  ______________________________________  __________________________
Staff Member Name                                                           Staff Member Signature                                                                 Date