

Guidance on Research Involving Sexual Misconduct

Notice to all CMU investigators conducting research on human subjects:

Please be advised that CMU's Sexual Misconduct Policy has been revised regarding mandatory reporting of allegations of sexual misconduct; when those allegations are made during IRB-approved research with human subjects, the researcher is no longer obligated to report those allegations to the Title IX Coordinator. The policy language now reads as follows:

"Responsible Employees are not required to report allegations of Sexual Misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator, or designee, when: the disclosure is made during the course of a research project approved by CMU's Institutional Review Board." Page 7 of the MANUAL OF UNIVERSITY POLICIES PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES, SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY. Revision date October 19, 2017.

The University remains committed to assuring a safe and productive teaching, learning and living environment for all students, faculty and staff. In order to meet this commitment, and to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Violence Against Women's Act, as reauthorized and amended, and guidance from the Office for Civil Rights, the University developed the CMU Sexual Misconduct Policy. Under the Policy, the University requires faculty members to report incidents of sexual misconduct shared by students to the University's Title IX Coordinator. The exception to reporting described above does not relieve faculty of their obligation to report when allegations are made in other contexts; rather, it recognizes and appreciates researchers' obligations to respects the promises of confidentiality they make when subjects consent to participate in scientific research.

CMU's Sexual Misconduct Policy can be accessed at
https://www.cmich.edu/office_president/general_counsel/Documents/p03039.pdf

If research participants do make an allegation of sexual misconduct, researchers should provide participants with information about confidential resources available on campus:

- CMU Counseling Center – 989-774-3381
- CMU Counselors in Residence Halls
- CMU Sexual Aggression Peer Advocates (SAPA) – 989-774-2255
- Sexual Aggression Services – 989-774-6677
- CMU's Employee Assistance Program – 800-788-8630

Researchers may also want to encourage subjects who make allegations to consider reporting this to CMU's Title IX Coordinator:

Katherine Lasher
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Office of Civil Rights and Institutional Equity
Bovee University Center 306
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