

University of Chicago statement

"In connection with a complaint filed last March, the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights (Region V) informed the University in mid-January that it wanted to gather additional information. The OCR asked to review certain records and interview staff members. It also asked to meet with selected focus groups of students to discuss their experiences with the University's policies and practices regarding sexual misconduct. Building on a history of productive collaboration with the OCR, the University has made every effort to comply with the spirit and letter of this inquiry, and will incorporate any OCR findings into its ongoing efforts to provide for the best possible campus climate. The University is committed to ensuring that its educational programs and work environment are free from unlawful discrimination under Title IX.

"In order to sustain an academic community in which all students and scholars can participate freely and fully, the University has a particular commitment to addressing sexual misconduct and unlawful harassment and discrimination involving students. Over the years, this commitment has led to the creation of important student support programs such as the Sexual Assault Dean-on-Call, the Bias Response Team, and RSVP (Resources for Sexual Violence Prevention); the growth of confidential resources offered by the Student Counseling Service; and special training for University police officers in responding to acts of sexual violence. It also demands that we regularly re-evaluate our student disciplinary processes and update our policies, as we did in 2006, 2010 and 2011, and as undertaken again this academic year."

Jeremy Manier

News Director

University of Chicago