In 2020, the student-led collective Survivors + Allies (S+A) began a research project surveying students across UC campuses to evaluate students’ awareness, utilization, and evaluation of on- and off-campus resources for survivors of sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH), including Title IX, Campus Assault Resources & Education (CARE), Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), and UC Police Departments (UCPD).

The resulting sample consisted of:

- 1,223 total students (52% undergraduate and 48% graduate)
- 62% cisgender women, 21% cisgender men, 2% transgender people, 18% nonbinary and people of other gender identities
- 42% of students identified as LGBQA+
- 59% as students of color
- 17% as international students
- 41% identified as survivors of SVSH

### KEY FINDING 1
**STUDENTS’ OVERALL AWARENESS OF RESOURCES IS LOW**

- Students lack awareness of the two key resources for survivor healing: CARE and CAPS. Only 68% had heard of CARE, 80% had heard of CAPS. These numbers are much lower for international students.
- A high percentage of students don’t know that international (32% don’t know) and undocumented students (38% don’t know) are covered by Title IX.
- 36% of students believed that Title IX is confidential, although it is not; any appointment with a Title IX employee to discuss a student’s situation could result in an investigation.
- Asian and Latinx students are 40% less likely to know what the Title IX office does when compared to White students.
KEY FINDING 2
STUDENTS ARE NOT COMFORTABLE REPORTING TO UCPD AND DISTRUST BOTH TITLE IX AND UCPD

- Based on both research and lived experience, we find that UCPD is an undesired frontline response for survivors and their experiences of harm.
- LGBQA+ students are 40% less likely to report to UCPD than heterosexual students.
- Systemwide, LGBQA+ students are less likely to trust the Title IX Office or UCPD.
- Overall, 12% of students wouldn’t trust Title IX to support someone like them (with their identities and background).

"UCPD was the first university related place I came to after the stalking incident, but they didn’t do anything until several more girls were harassed by the same man, and then he was kicked off campus. I wish they had done it sooner. After the initial call, he stalked me two more times."
- UC Riverside undergraduate student

KEY FINDING 3
SURVIVORS REPORTED NEGATIVE EXPERIENCES WITH TITLE IX

- Survivors reported highly negative experiences when interacting with Title IX. The process was lengthy, confusing, and inequitable (many perpetrators hired outside lawyers).
- Moreover, Title IX staff were not trauma-informed and did not give survivors clear information. Whereas 83% of survivors reported receiving clear information from CARE, only 56% reported receiving the same from Title IX.
- Survivors do not feel safe interacting with Title IX staff. Compared to 80% of survivors who felt safe with CARE staff, only 30% felt safe with Title IX staff.
RECOMMENDATIONS

RESOURCES AND FUNDING

- Publish annual budgets for CARE and CAPS with information about how budgets are allocated across UC campuses.
- Increase CARE programming and the number of CARE Advocates.
- Hire more therapists: therapists of color, LGBTQIA+ therapists, first-generation/immigrant therapists, and therapists who specialize in working with victim-survivors.
- Hire a CARE Advocate or equivalent at each UC international center who shares identities with international students.
- Designate campus LGBTQIA+ centers as confidential resources.
- Increase awareness of on-campus and off-campus healing resources through improved communication, especially to marginalized student groups.
- Create more Black and Latinx survivor-centered resources and programming.
- Standardize information required on UC Campus Title IX websites and UCOP systemwide Title IX website.

DATA AND TRANSPARENCY

- Standardize data collection and reporting across the UC system, which is consistent with recommendations by UCOP’s own Title IX Student Advisory Board.
  - Currently, reporting varies widely by campus and is unstandardized.
- Make public any UC surveys about the efficacy of Title IX trainings and students’ experiences with SVSH.
- Develop systemwide requirements for pre- and post-test evaluations for trainings of Title IX staff and investigators.
- Develop post-investigation surveys for Title IX offices to solicit anonymous feedback from students.

Survivors + Allies

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