

## **Statement Regarding Complaint and Grievance Procedures**

The complaint and grievance procedures contained herein have been developed to enable the University to receive, investigate and resolve complaints of discrimination on the basis of sex. These procedures are designed to provide a supportive process for individuals who report discrimination and to ensure a fair process for individuals who are accused of discriminatory conduct. Any Quinnipiac student, faculty or staff member who believes that she or he has been subjected to discrimination based upon sex in any University program or activity, that the University has failed to meet its Title IX obligations regarding equity in athletics, or that he/she has been subjected to sexual misconduct may bring such concerns to the attention of the University's Title IX coordinator to obtain a prompt and equitable resolution.

The U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is the federal agency charged with enforcing compliance with Title IX. Anyone has the right to contact them directly. Information regarding OCR can be found at:

Office for Civil Rights, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-1100  
Customer Service Hotline: 800-421-3481 • Facsimile: 202-453-6012 • TDD: 877-521-2172  
Email: [OCR@ed.gov](mailto:OCR@ed.gov) • Website: [www.ed.gov/ocr](http://www.ed.gov/ocr)

### **Informal Complaints**

Students, faculty and staff may bring concerns to the University Title IX coordinator or Deputy Coordinator on an informal basis. Where appropriate, the Title IX coordinator/Deputy Coordinator will provide counseling and advice and may attempt to facilitate an informal resolution. The University Title IX coordinator/Deputy Coordinator also is available to receive and address such allegations through the formal grievance procedures described below. Complainants who are considering bringing a formal grievance may at any time meet with the University Title IX coordinator/Deputy Coordinator, who will discuss the matter and describe the formal grievance process. Where appropriate and with prior notice where applicable, these grievance procedures may be modified or amended by the University Title IX coordinator.

The University Title IX coordinator has the authority to investigate allegations of discrimination prohibited by Title IX even absent the filing of a formal grievance, or after its subsequent withdrawal. The University has an obligation to the entire Quinnipiac community to take appropriate steps to prevent community members from being subjected to discrimination and sexual misconduct. As a result, there may be circumstances that will require the University Title IX coordinator to proceed with investigating a formal or informal grievance even if a complainant specifically requests that the matter not be pursued.

### **Informal Resolution**

In instances where it is deemed possible and safe, the University may choose to resolve reports through informal means. If it is determined that an informal resolution may be appropriate, the Title IX coordinator or deputy Title IX coordinator will speak with the complainant about this option. If the complainant agrees, the Title IX coordinator or deputy Title IX coordinator will speak with the person alleged to have engaged in the misconduct. If a satisfactory resolution is reached through this informal process, the matter will be considered completed. If these efforts