
ANNUAL REPORT



Academic Year
2013 - 2014

Boston University Sexual Assault Response
and Prevention Center

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Annual Report

BOSTON UNIVERSITY SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE AND PREVENTION CENTER

INTRODUCTION

Having completed its second academic year, the Sexual Assault Response and Prevention (SARP) Center provides this report reviewing the unit's accomplishments and goals. SARP's primary objective is to provide superior clinical response, as well as awareness and prevention programming to the Boston University community. SARP's clinical focus continues to be on providing appropriate treatment to students who have experienced sexual or interpersonal violence, as well as, or in addition to, physical or emotional trauma. SARP's prevention efforts include bystander intervention education and programming that raises awareness of sexual misconduct, dating violence, stalking and harassment.



PREVENTION SERVICES

Orientation

Students' introduction to SARP begins with our prevention awareness programming at Incoming Student Orientation. All incoming students are required to attend this event, and see skits written and performed by returning students and emceed by SARP staff. One skit takes place at a party, and addresses the role of alcohol in sexual assault and the importance of bystander intervention. For the Orientation of the class of 2018, SARP advocated with the Dean of Students Office (DOS) and the coordinator of orientation for an additional skit to be performed. SARP staff guided the student actors to develop a second skit that did not involve alcohol. Many incoming students self-identify as abstinent as indicated in the data below, taken from the Alcohol.Edu® survey administered in 2013.

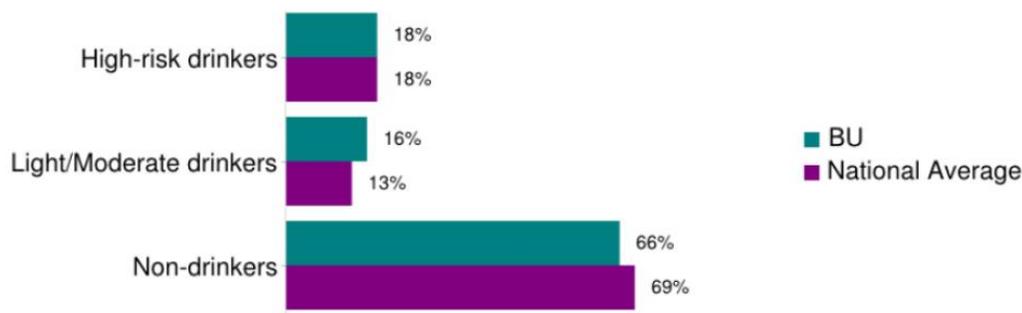


FIGURE 1 ALCOHOLEDU® GENERATED DATA

The second skit presented at Incoming Student Orientation focuses on controlling behavior and interpersonal violence in a dating relationship. It uses live polling to actively engage the incoming students in decision making as bystanders. Both skits are performed for students and parents. After the skits were performed at the first orientation session in June, one parent yelled out from the audience, “Will the students see this too?” The affirmative response was greeted with applause.

First Year Experience

The foundation laid during Orientation is expanded upon during SARP's FY101 module, a one credit elective in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), called “First Year Experience.” Our curriculum this year focused on peer involvement and building a healthy community. (See Figure 2).

FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE

CAS FY 101

Credits: 1

A continuation of the orientation process, FY 101 focuses on the individual student's connection to the College and the University. Through discussions, assignments, class activities, and some large group activities, students engage with the academic, social and cultural dimensions of the University while examining their own development as students and individuals.

FIGURE 2 FROM BU COURSE BULLETIN

Attendance for the SARP module has increased from 278 in academic year (AY) '12-'13 to 357 in AY '13-'14 . (See Figure 3). It is important to note that FY101 students are often from difficult to reach and frequently at-risk populations, such as international students.

Step Up Step In BU

Step Up Step In BU (SUSIBU) is SARP's primary, and farthest-reaching, prevention program. SUSIBU is based on the evidence-based program *Bringing in the Bystander* developed by Prevention Innovations at the University of New Hampshire, and was initially introduced to BU by the Dean of Students Office. In the spring of 2012, approximately 400 students attended presentations of the Prevention Innovations program, facilitated by staff from many areas of the University. The students were asked to provide feedback about the program, and this information was used to develop the first bystander intervention training program specific to BU. Oversight and further development of the training program was transitioned from the DOS Office when SARP opened in late summer 2012.

Students who are required to participate in SUSIBU are those viewed as being in a leadership role: all varsity athletes, and at least one member of the Executive Board of all student groups that receive funding from the Student Activities Office (SAO).

Unfortunately, AY '13-'14 saw fewer students formally trained in SUSIBU than AY '12-'13. A variety of logistical challenges contributed to this decrease. Dean of Students Office student employees who were previously required to participate in SUSIBU were not mandated to complete the training in AY '13-'14. In addition, it has been a challenge to recruit volunteer presenters to facilitate SUSIBU sessions as presenters commit a substantial amount of time and training in addition to their usual work responsibilities. This academic year the Health and Prevention Educator missed several opportunities to

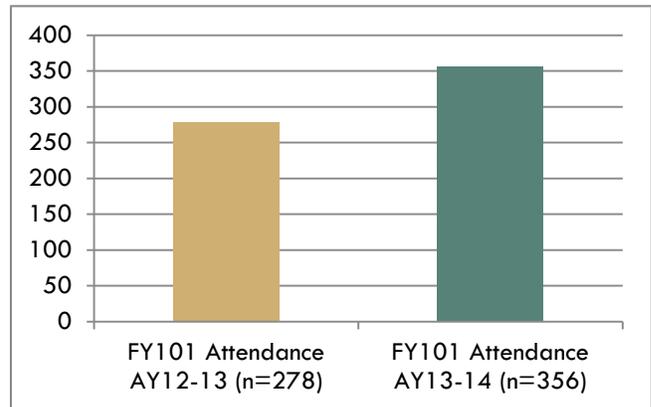


FIGURE 3 FY101 ATTENDANCE FOR SARP MODULE



FIGURE 4 SUSIBU SESSION FALL 2013

recruit students to participate voluntarily, specifically club and intramural teams and students involved in Greek life. With a newly hired Health Educator, it is believed that the numbers of students trained will return to or exceed the AY '12-'13 number. New requirements under the Campus SaVE act will also drive increased participation in prevention programming.

It is encouraging that SARP served a significant number of students who were voluntary participants in AY '13-'14, including:

- 3 Club/intramural teams (60 students)
- Sigma Phi Epsilon (21)
- Sargent College class (29)
- Goldman School of Dental Medicine Peer Advisors (18)
- Student Health Ambassadors (6)
- DOS summer student employees (60)
- SAO summer interns (7)
- SARP student actors (4)

BU Athletics has been invested in and supportive of SUSIBU, reinforcing the requirement that all varsity athletes participate in SUSIBU, and also requiring new staff to participate. During AY '13-'14, SARP took the opportunity to hold three SUSIBU sessions solely for faculty and staff, which were attended by a total of 22 faculty and staff from around the university, not only Athletics.

In May of 2014 SARP collaborated with the College of General Studies (CGS) and the London study abroad program. An experienced volunteer facilitator from the Office of Judicial Affairs went to London to train the recently arrived CGS students in SUSIBU.



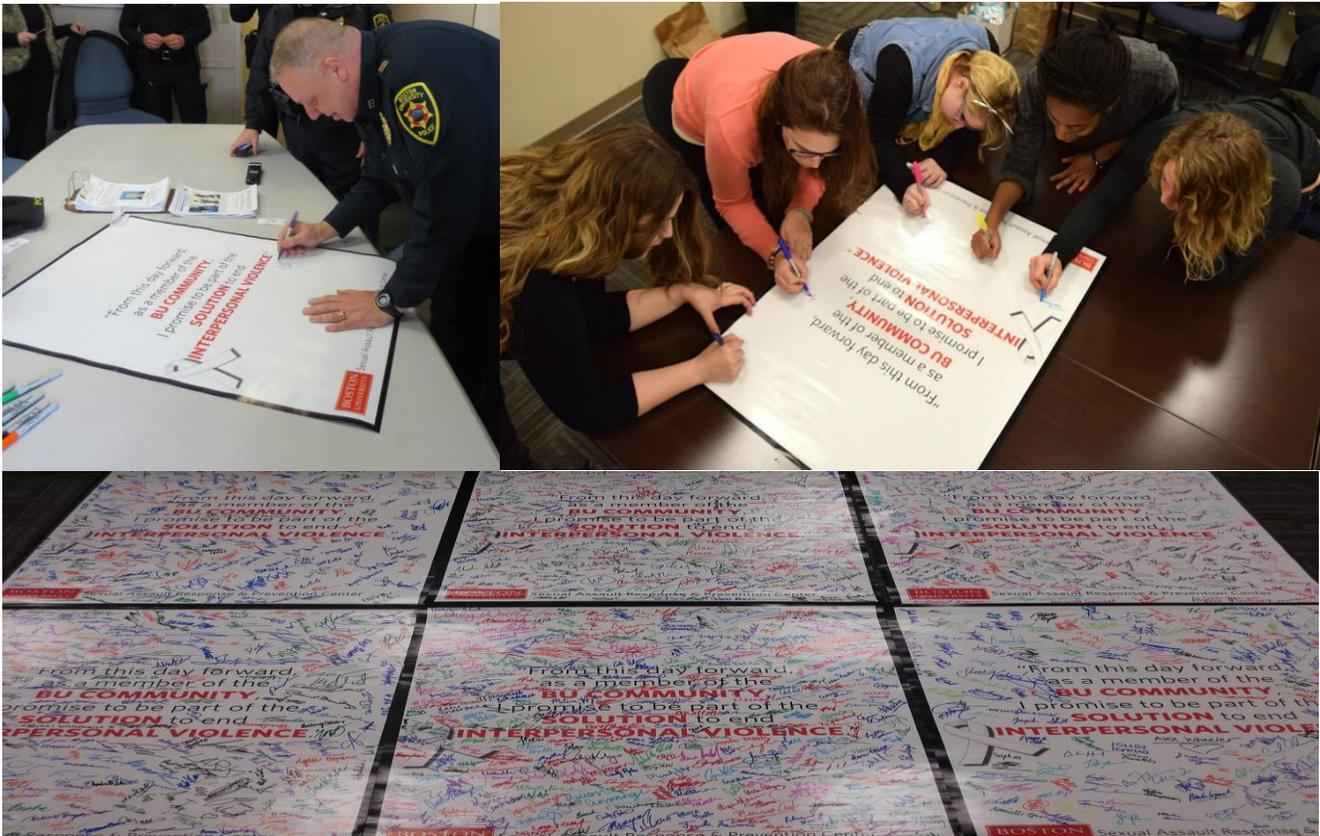
Awareness

SARP uses international, national, local and BU specific initiatives, such as:

- **One Billion Rising** – An international solidarity campaign that draws attention to the statistic that 1/3 women globally (or one billion women) will experience sexual or physical violence. Events, such as flash mobs, are held on February 14th, Valentines Day to raise awareness and provide opportunities for education.
- **White Ribbon Week** – Started in response to a mass killing of 14 feminists in Canada, the White Ribbon became a symbol of men’s efforts to end violence against women. Today events include a pledge, taken by all genders, as a commitment to nonviolence in all relationships.
- **BU Sexual Assault Awareness Week** – Aligning with the national Sexual Assault Awareness Month, BU’s Sexual Assault Awareness Week is a focused attempt to raise the issue of sexual assault on campus. It includes many events, including:
 - **Take Back the Night** – Usually occurring on the Friday of Sexual Assault Awareness week, Take Back the Night is an international activist event that encourages women to gather and dialogue about their experiences with violence of any form, and typically concludes with a march through the campus.
 - **The Clothesline Project** – An international awareness program started on Cape Cod that encourages survivors of violence to decorate a t-shirt that is hung in a public space as a testimony of their experience.

These initiatives raise awareness of SARP and other resources available to BU students, as well as highlighting issues of sexual misconduct, interpersonal violence, stalking and harassment. We work with individual students and student groups to develop and promote programming and events.

SARP uses social media to connect with students through commonly used platforms to promote services and programming. SARP has been fortunate to have College of Communication PRLab students the past 3 semesters. These students have worked to increase our social media presence and promote specific events. The number of “likes” on SARP’s Facebook page increased from 84 to 613 during AY ‘13-‘14. Our Twitter account grew to 432 followers. Both continue to grow during incoming student orientation, as parents as well as students connect with us. Students, parents, faculty and staff frequently comment that SARP’s website is extremely user friendly. During AY ‘13-14 the SARP website had 9,969 unique visitors. Many of these visitors viewed the webpage multiple times, leading to a total of 12,341 views of the webpage during this period.



All of SARP's programming strives to have a positive effect, promoting healthy relationships and education about topics such as consent. SARP has worked to be inclusive and welcoming to marginalized groups, such as LGBTQ students, in all of our programming and events. The success of this work is reflected in the many invitations extended to SARP to participate on panels and speak with student special interest groups, such as Iota Nu Delta (the Southeast Asian Fraternity), Q Collective (BU's queer activist collective), the Center for Gender, Sexuality & Activism (CGSA), and the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC).

Ambassador Program

In January of 2014, the SARP Ambassador Program was initiated. The program was established to increase student input and participation in SARP's prevention and awareness initiatives and programming. The eleven Ambassadors, chosen from seventeen applicants, are undergraduate and graduate students. Nineteen additional students have expressed an interest in becoming SARP Ambassadors for AY '14-'15. SARP's goal is that the SARP Ambassadors represent the gender, racial and ethnic diversity of the BU community.

ALCOHOL AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

Statistics

SARP’s collaboration with SHS Wellness and Prevention Services (WPS) has seen the inclusion of messages in Condom Fairy and other sexual health promotion initiatives, highlighting the importance of consent for sexual activity related to the use of alcohol. SARP plans to continue to work closely with WPS to carefully address the connection between substance use and sexual assault.

Data collected from AlcoholEdu® for College, our required online alcohol prevention program for first-year students, highlights the need for this messaging. The following charts present data from AlcoholEdu® that compare Boston University with the national aggregate of students who took the survey during the same time period (Summer and Fall 2013).



ASK YOURSELF:

- AM I **S**OBER ENOUGH TO HAVE SEX?
- DID I **A**SK FOR PERMISSION?
- IS MY PARTNER **F**REE TO LEAVE OR SAY NO?
- DID I **E**XPRESS WHAT I WANTED?
- IS MY PARTNER **S**OBER?
- DID MY PARTNER **E**XPRESS WHAT THEY WANTED?
- AM I **E**XTRA CERTAIN THAT I HAVE CONSENT?

CONSENT IS PERMISSION FROM A PARTNER TO ENGAGE IN SEXUAL ACTIVITY. CONSENT IS AN ON-GOING DIALOGUE BETWEEN YOU & A PARTNER.

BU WELLNESS & PREVENTION SERVICES

FIGURE 6 HANDOUT INCLUDED IN CONDOM FAIRY DELIVERIES

Negative Consequences - drinkers only - During the past two weeks, to what degree did the following happen to you when drinking or as a result of your drinking? Don't count things that have happened to you but were not because of drinking. Been taken advantage of sexually				
	Summer 2013 National Average	Summer 2013 Boston University	Fall 2013 National Average	Fall 2013 Boston University
(1) Never	92.81%	95.18%	88.05%	89.80% n=977
(2)	2.73%	1.77%	4.15%	3.95% n=43
(3)	1.48%	1.28%	2.38%	2.30% n=25
(4)	1.70%	0.79%	3.61%	2.39% n=26
(5)	0.56%	0.49%	0.86%	0.83% n=9
(6)	0.28%	0.20%	0.39%	0.46% n=5
(7) Always	0.44%	0.30%	0.56%	0.28% n=3
Total Respondents	127,946	1,016	134,824	1,088 n=1,088

FIGURE 7 ALCOHOLEDU® GENERATED DATA

Unfortunately, baseline data is minimal at this point in time, so data collected in the AlcoholEdu® survey is used here, but with reservations. The use of the Likert scale- a 1-7 range from Always to Never - for what would appear to be “yes” or “no” answers, as well as the wording of the questions, is problematic as it supports the myth that there are hierarchies of sexual violence.

In Figure 7, we can assume that the 977 BU students who selected “Never” *had not* been taken advantage of sexually in the past two weeks as a result of alcohol use. Therefore, we can also assume that the 111 BU students who did not respond “Never” *had* been taken advantage of sexually in the past two weeks. Given that the second survey was administered in October and November of 2013, we can assume that these 111 students were taken advantage of sexually while students at Boston University.

Negative Consequences - drinkers only - During the past two weeks, to what degree did the following happen to you when drinking or as a result of your drinking? Don't count things that have happened to you but were not because of drinking. Taken advantage of someone sexually				
	Summer 2013 National Average	Summer 2013 Boston University	Fall 2013 National Average	Fall 2013 Boston University
(1) Never	95.23%	97.14%	91.63%	93.28% n=1,013
(2)	1.93%	1.38%	2.91%	2.39% n=26
(3)	0.92%	0.39%	1.60%	1.10% n=12
(4)	1.31%	0.79%	2.97%	1.93% n=21
(5)	0.26%	0.10%	0.39%	0.64% n=7
(6)	0.12%	0.10%	0.13%	0.28% n=3
(7) Always	0.24%	0.10%	0.37%	0.37% n=4
Total Respondents	127,575	1,013	134,496	1,086 n=1,086

FIGURE 8 ALCOHOLEDU® GENERATED DATA

Likewise for Figure 8, we can assume that the 73 BU students of the 1086, who did not respond “Never”, had taken advantage of someone sexually in the past two weeks. Once again, given that the second survey was administered in October and November of 2013, we can assume that these 73 students had taken advantage of someone sexually during their first three months as a Boston University student.

It should be noted that these figures include only students who have self-identified as using alcohol, leaving the experiences of a large number of first year students missing from the data.

Data Collection

Other than the data presented from AlcoholEdu®, the supporting data in this report has been compiled by clinicians at SARP. It should be noted that clinicians do not have an investigative or formal data collection role. The implementation of a climate survey scheduled for Spring 2015 will hopefully give us solid data from which to tailor our prevention and awareness programming.

COLLABORATIONS

University-wide

BMC Domestic Violence Advisory Committee (ongoing)	Collaboration with CGS, Study Abroad, OJA
BU Sexual Misconduct Working Group (ongoing)	Reviewed research proposals for Anne Stevens Award at BMC
BU SHS Mental Health Roundtable	SHS Disaster Response Tabletop Exercise
BUPD Awards Dinner	SHS Diversity Committee (ongoing)
Global Programs' Overseas Mental Health Training Working Group	SHS LGBT Student Committee
Planning Group for January Admission CGS London Program	Trans* Student Working Group (ongoing)

Schools, Colleges, and Internal Programs

Boston University Police Department	Office of Judicial Affairs
College of Arts and Sciences	Office of the Ombuds
College of Communications	School of Hospitality Administration
College of Engineering	School of Law
College of Fine Arts	School of Management
College of General Studies	School of Public Health
Dean of Students Office	Student Health Services: Primary Care, Behavioral Medicine Clinic, and Wellness & Prevention Services
Faculty and Staff Assistance Office	Equal Opportunity Office
Graduate School of Arts and Sciences	University Service Center
Goldman School of Dental Medicine	
Office of Disability Services	
Office of General Counsel	

Student Groups

1 in 4 (Advisor to Student Group)
 Active Minds
 Center for Gender, Sexuality & Activism
 FemCo
 Iota Nu Delta

PRLab
 Q Collective
 Reserve Offices' Training Corps – Navy
 Undergraduate Public Health Students

Consultations

Boston Conservatory
 College of the Holy Cross
 Emerson College
 Governor's Working Group on Sexual
 Assault (ongoing)
 Lesley University – Grant Consultation

Simmons College
 Tufts University
 University of British Columbia – Program
 Development
 US Army

CLINICAL RESPONSE

Two Crisis Intervention Counselors and the Director are responsible for delivering the trauma informed clinical treatment provided by SARP. This includes but is not limited to:

- Sharing 24/7/365 on-call duties
- Assessment, development and implementation of treatment plans
- Advocacy for students with both external systems (e.g. police, District Attorneys, students' employers) and internal systems (e.g. faculty, Residence Life, Deans)
- Individual and group therapy
- Outreach to those affected by an event such as the death of a community member
- Consultation to faculty, staff, friends and parents

We receive referrals from Residence Life (ResLife), SHS, faculty and staff, University Service Center, the Office of Judicial Affairs, BUPD, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC), Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC), concerned friends and parents of students in addition to direct contact from students themselves. The three clinicians also participate in our prevention and awareness initiatives.

The clinical work involved is rarely confined to a weekly 50-minute therapy session, especially in the initial stages of disclosure of a recent assault. Students frequently use contact with clinicians on call for support and emotional containment. We frequently work closely with ResLife, individual schools and colleges, law enforcement and many other offices to insure students' safety.

Clinical Services Overview

- Grief Support Group (Fall, Spring)
- Sexual Assault Support Group (Spring)
- 2 Student Deaths
 - Onsite clinical support at dorms, outreach to roommates/friends, drop-in groups, in classrooms
- Marathon Bombing
 - Memorial service for Lu Lingzi
 - Four Anniversary Support Groups
- CFA Faculty Death
 - Onsite support at CFA
- Convened Care Team with reps from: DOS, ODS, OGC, ENG, ORL, EOO, USC, SHS
- Clinical Coverage for Vagina Monologues on both CRC and MED campuses

Student Contact

In AY '13-'14, 222 students were seen by SARP clinicians. Of these, 74 were seen because of a presenting issue involving sexual assault. The following charts are representations of those 74 student victim/survivors.

Figure 9 shows the increase in appointments from AY '12-'13 to AY '13-'14. The students who came to SARP were predominantly female (92%), and 73% undergraduates. Although transgender students came to SARP our data collection did not permit this differentiation. This will change in the coming year.

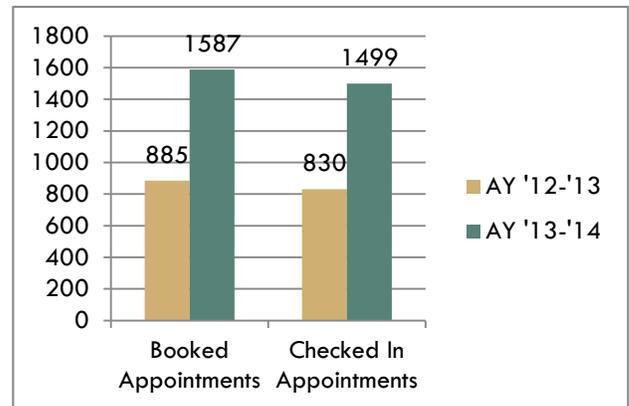


FIGURE 9 BOOKED AND CHECKED IN APPOINTMENTS BY ACADEMIC YEAR

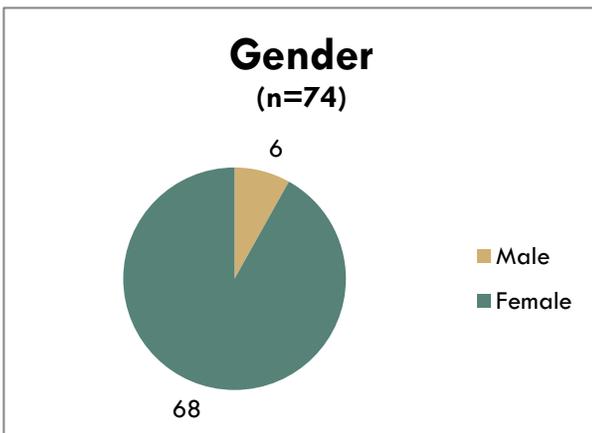


FIGURE 10 SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS BY GENDER

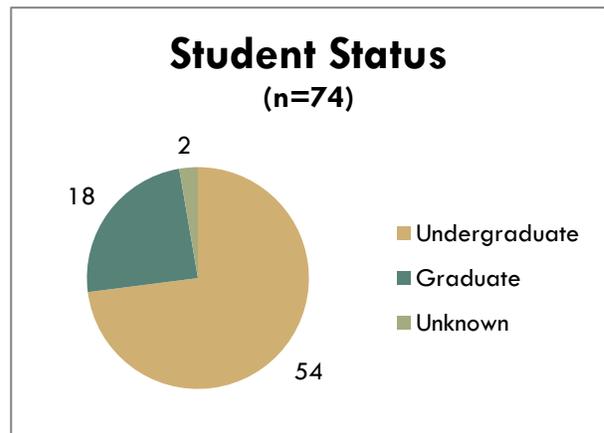


FIGURE 11 SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS BY STUDENT STATUS

The assaults disclosed to SARP clinicians included those that occurred while the student was a BU student, a student at another college, in high school, junior high school, and sexual abuse in childhood.

Some students have had multiple assaults and assailants. Research demonstrates that a survivor of sexual assault and/or childhood sexual abuse is at risk for further victimization and that treatment can often prevent further victimization.

Time of Assault

(n=74)

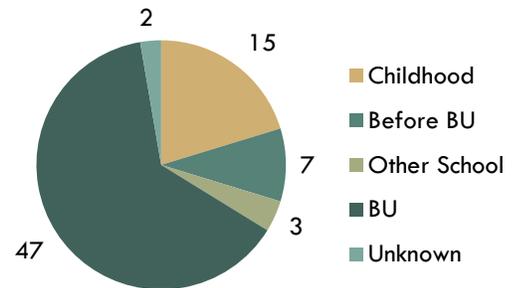
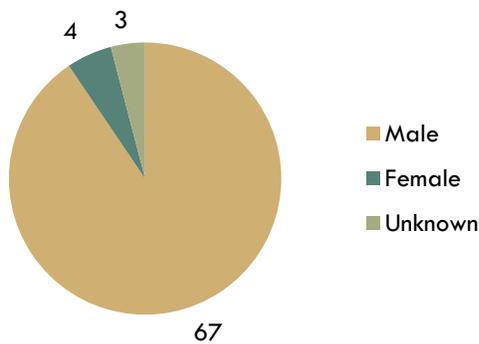


FIGURE 12 TIMEFRAME OF SEXUAL ASSAULTS

Gender of Assailant

(n=74)



The gender of the assailants was predominantly male (91%) although females were also assailants (5%). The gender of 4% of assailants was unknown due to the victim/survivor's having been incapacitated or possibly the victim of several assailants.

FIGURE 13 GENDER OF SEXUAL ASSAULT ASSAILANT

Students knew their assailants 61% of the time. 34% assailants were unknown to the victim/survivor. Students were unsure about the identity of the assailant 5% of the time. The 34% unknown assailants appears higher than would be predicted.

Identity of Assailant

(n=74)

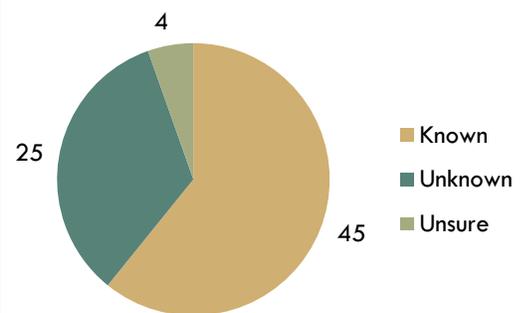


FIGURE 14 IDENTITY OF SEXUAL ASSAULT ASSAILANT

Of particular interest are the locations of the assaults as shown below:

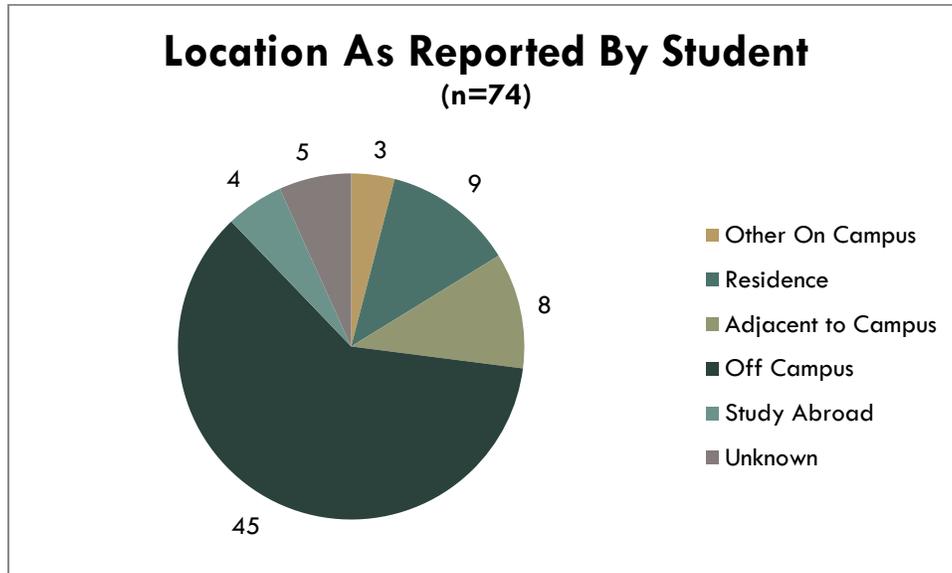


FIGURE 15 LOCATION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

It is surprising to note that only 12% of the assaults occurred in a BU residence- dorm or apartment. This may be attributed to the awareness and prevention training provided to GRAs and RAs by SARP, and to the residences being considered safe spaces. It may also point to students’ hesitation to disclose sexual violence due to concerns about parental notification or the lack of a “good Samaritan” policy. The latter seems more likely. The 4% of assaults “Other On Campus” occurred in locations that were not a residence. “Adjacent to Campus” signifies locations that are highly popular with and populated by BU students such as parts of Allston/Brighton or MIT fraternities located on Bay State Road.

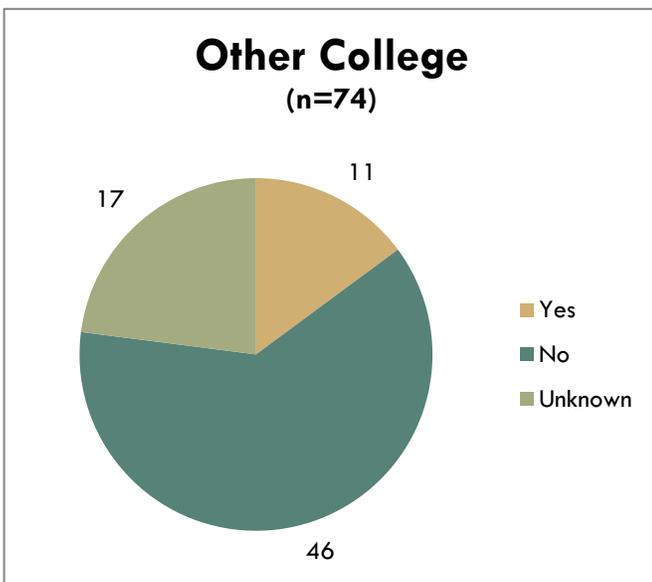


FIGURE 16 SEXUAL ASSAULTS OCCURING AT OTHER SCHOOLS

BU is located in an urban area saturated by colleges and universities with much interaction among students. Eleven BU students were assaulted in locations affiliated with another school, whether locally or not, while 17 were unsure if the location was connected with a college. This speaks to the need for local schools to work together to promote awareness and prevention programming. As of this writing a unified campaign is being developed with area schools by BU’s Dean of Students.

STAFFING

The summer of 2013 saw a significant turnover in SARP's staff, with two crisis intervention counselors and the administrative coordinator leaving. However, this unexpected situation allowed for the hiring of highly committed individuals. The new clinicians provide a broad range of experience clinically, as well as knowledge related to prevention initiatives. SARP also took advantage of the expertise of the University's Human Resources Project Manager, Mark Braun, who provided valuable coaching and guidance to the director helping to build a stronger and more cohesive team.

In June 2014, the Health and Prevention Educator resigned. In August a highly qualified internal employee was promoted to fill the position.

TRAININGS OFFERED

Navy ROTC

RA Training – “Supporting Student Survivors of Sexual Assault”

FY101 Peer Mentors

LAW Peer Advisors

New England Women's Centers Conference – “Social Justice Informed Interventions for Interpersonal Violence”

Speak Up to Take Down Rape Culture Summit, Harvard University – “Student/Administrator Collaboration”

Massachusetts Association of Student Affairs Professionals, “Caring for a Community in Crisis” – Panelist

ENG Advising Staff, Psychological First Aid

Title IX Deputies Trainings

Provost's Brown Bag Lunch Training Series – Panelist

SHS – “Classic and Insidious Trauma for LGBTQ* Survivors”

SHS Interns – “Domestic and Interpersonal Violence”

Study Abroad Program Directors - Annual Meeting

Trainings for Orientation and Summer Programs Student Leaders

GOALS FOR AY '14-'15

- Recruit and train graduate and undergraduate students to facilitate SUSIBU
- Develop and implement “booster” program for students who have previously participated in SUSIBU
- Develop topics and Speakers Bureau using expertise and interests of clinical staff
- Two advertising campaigns will promote awareness of SARP; one is directed specifically at international students
- Involvement in BU Sexual Misconduct Working Group and Climate Survey Task Force
- Given increased demand for clinical and advocacy services, as well as administrative requirements for director, review utilization
- Continue relationship with WPS around awareness of alcohol use in sexual assault

