

Intercampus Student Council

UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

Students of the University of Missouri System,

On March 10, 2017, the Intercampus Student Council, which comprises undergraduate and graduate student governments at UMSL, UMKC, MU, and Missouri S&T, was informed about a series of events on the UMKC campus relating to sexual misconduct and rape culture, two significant issues that plague public institutions of higher education nationwide. The following events took place on the UMKC campus over the course of the last month:

- Friday, February 24th: UMKC student was sexually assaulted in Johnson Hall
- Saturday, February 25th: UMKC police and administration were notified by the hospital of the incident
- Wednesday, March 1st: Local news released information regarding said information
- Friday, March 3rd 2:48pm: UMKC students announce student rally to combat rape culture and to present a plan of action to Vice Chancellor Mel Tyler.
- Friday, March 3rd 5:45pm: Vice Chancellor Tyler forwards email addressing the incident.
- Tuesday, March 7th: Chancellor Leo Morton forwards a follow-up email addressing said incident and invites campus community to attend listening session.

Our aim is to foster an intercampus culture where problems on one campus translate into concern on and support from every campus, and to reinforce our commitment to solve these issues. But this is only possible if this responsibility is shared with university administrators, and relies on their willingness to communicate with students and to make addressing these issues proactively, rather than reactively, a priority. The above sequence of events is not emblematic of this. The ISC is requesting the following practices be adopted:

- We want to be assured that going forward be it any incident that happens within the University or outside the University and includes any of students, faculty, staff or alumni, the student body needs to be informed in no less than 24 hours based on the availability of facts and staff working on the statement, pursuant to local, state, and federal laws.
- Where there is not one already, concrete action plans should be developed detailing specifically what the administration plans to do to prevent future sexual assaults. Sexual assault is too prevalent, and too damaging, to be addressed only in a reactionary fashion. Emails and listening sessions, while useful and appreciated, are simply not enough.

The University of Missouri - Kansas City Student Government Association (SGA) is in the process of forming a student accountability group, which from here on out will be tasked with monitoring administrative responses to these issues to ensure proper communication and remediation. Students stand united against sexual violence.

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The following student leaders and student government associations have signed onto this letter.

Navya Sane, President
Student Government Association
University of Missouri - Kansas City

Rachel Bauer, President
Graduate Professional Council
University of Missouri - Columbia

Kathryn Loucks, President
Student Government Association
University of Missouri - St. Louis

Morgan Hale, President
Student Council
Missouri University of Science & Technology

Sean Earl, President
Missouri Students Association
University of Missouri - Columbia

Sudharshan Anandan, President
Council of Graduate Students
Missouri University of Science & Technology

Steven Chaffin, Interim Chair
Intercampus Student Council
University of Missouri System

Nikki Gomez, Vice-President
Council of Graduate Students
Missouri University of Science & Technology