



November 2020

Update from Title IX Coordinator

The month of November brought a highly contested Presidential election with enormous implications for the future of higher education and Title IX. Campbellsville University's Title IX Office is continuing to develop new initiatives aimed at improving the holistic and comprehensive approach to gender equity in our campus community.

Gender Equity and the Christian Worldview

On November 9, 2020 the Title IX Office launched its new podcast series entitled *Gender Equity and the Christian Worldview*. The purpose of this podcast is to introduce and facilitate conversation on issues of gender equity to the vast Campbellsville University community. Each month, guests with broad-ranging areas of expertise are interviewed to help CU students, faculty, and staff consider how ways in which gender equity may be enhanced within our institution.



Our first episode featured Campbellsville University Professor of Psychology, Dr. Susan Howell. My conversation with Dr. Howell explored topics related to how our faith can shape how we define and understand gender and sex, and how we understand gender and sex roles within our dating and marital relationships. Dr. Howell gave excellent advice for college students in navigating their dating relationships, and highlighted the importance of finding balance. To listen to our conversation, follow this link: <https://www.campbellsville.edu/policy/title-ix-policy-procedure/sexual-violence-prevention-plan/>

What Will a Biden/Harris Administration Mean for Title IX?

The recent historic election of Present-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris almost immediately brought questions and certain expectations about what a Biden/Harris administration will mean for higher education. While nothing is certain, what we do know is that Biden/Harris will take a markedly different approach to Title IX than Trump's Secretary of Education, Betsy DeVos. Many of the recent changes made by the United States Department of Education regarding Title IX have raised serious concerns among Title IX officials.

The Trump administration made substantial and highly consequential rescissions in 2017 to Obama-era Title IX guidance, and followed it up in May 2020 with the release of brand new federal regulations, the first in several decades. These regulations required an extensive overhaul to Title IX policies and procedures in a short 100-day window, with an effective date of August 14, 2020 for compliance. With Biden's election, many are questioning whether all the revision work colleges and universities across the nation just completed will be in vain.



Biden has been outspoken on his opposition to the May 2020 Title IX rule, and it would be reasonable to expect him to take action to remedy the flaws he sees in the regulation. Any changes made, however, will take time. The exact identity of Title IX in 2021 is unknown, but at the least, we expect Biden/Harris will seek avenues to reverse or revise the current Title IX rule. Campbellsville University's Title IX Office will be keeping a close watch on this situation and will provide updates to the campus community as they are available.