

Dr. Gerard Clancy,

In light of the recent arrest of a TU student athlete on the accusation of sexual assault, we would like to take a moment to speak with you about TU's campus culture, the current state of assault prevention programming at TU, what can change, and how we can help.

Based on the email reports we receive from Campus Security multiple times per year and the arrest of Luis Alberto Molina last fall, the number of assault cases on TU campus is alarming. These reports don't even factor in the number of victims who may choose not to report their assaults.

While TU's approach to sexual assault prevention and related programming has improved in the past few years, the current programming is largely ineffective and we still have a ways to go.

Haven is universally mocked by students and does little to inform. We have found in our discussions with students that the program preaches to the choir. The modules are easy to skip without viewing or reading, and those who actually need the programming dismiss it as a waste of time.

Other hands-on programs like SAVE's Consent Week, Campus Security's Rape Aggression Defense course, and bystander intervention training suffer from dismal attendance. While many students are aware of and sensitive toward the issue of sexual assault, many others are actively dismissive of prevention efforts.

In this article, you can see comparisons of TU's current programming with options that have proven successful at other schools:

Prevention requires discussion: Sexual assault and harrasment, 7 Sept. 2016  
(<http://tucollegian.org/prevention-requires-discussion-sexual-assault-harassment/>)

The comparisons and suggestions in the above article solely represent a starting point.

We request that the TU administration renew its focus on sexual assault education and prevention.

We love TU and consider it to be a great university, as do countless TU students and alumni. It's unacceptable that sexual assault and harassment continue to be prevalent on this campus. We would like to see tangible change.

It seems appropriate to emphasize the role of TU's student groups in this effort. SAVE and Advocacy Alliance, for example, have been leading the charge in violence prevention programming. SA has been supportive of this programming as well, particularly in the past year or so. Other groups such as SGE have been vocal about ending assault, and the *Collegian* has reported on the issue several times:

TU awarded federal grant for sexual assault awareness and prevention, 28 Feb. 2017  
<http://tucollegian.org/tu-awarded-federal-grant-for-sexual-assault-awareness-and-prevention/>

Heated debate in sexual assault prevention panel, 31 Oct. 2016  
<http://tucollegian.org/heated-debate-in-sexual-assault-prevention-panel/>

Haven or Hell? Attendance should increase at TU bystander intervention workshops, 27 Jan. 2016  
<http://tucollegian.org/haven-or-hell-attendance-should-increase-at-tu-bystander-intervention-workshops/>

Prevention requires discussion: Sexual assault and harassment, 7 Sept. 2016

<http://tucollegian.org/prevention-requires-discussion-sexual-assault-harassment/>

There are many passionate student groups on campus whose members have ideas for inciting change, and we urge you to consider their input.

We want to take this opportunity to offer the *Collegian's* assistance in any matters regarding sexual assault prevention on campus, whether that be brainstorming ideas for new programs and other campus changes, developing incentives for participation in current programming, collaborating with other student groups, or simply using our position as student-run media to publicize programming such as the bystander intervention courses.

As current and former leaders of this publication, we know firsthand that our writers, like many of the students involved in campus organizations, have valuable ideas and are passionate about this issue.

Most importantly, we want to make it absolutely clear that students on campus care about assault prevention and want to see things change.

Dr. Clancy, the staff of the *Collegian* has been impressed thus far with your obvious commitment to TU. We've seen you address student concerns with individual care and incorporate student input into the changes that are made on campus. We urge you to continue doing so now.

Don't hesitate to let us know how we can help. Kayleigh Thesenvitz will be your point of contact for the 2017-2018 school year:

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Respectfully,

Hannah Kloppenburg, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus (2016-2017)

Kayleigh Thesenvitz, Editor-in-Chief (2017-2018)

P.S. So that you're aware, we plan on publishing the above letter on the *Collegian's* Facebook page. The post will include a PDF of the letter, as well as an invitation to TU affiliates and student groups to reach out to us with their ideas and input on the matter.