Notice of Rights and Options under Title IX

Providing an environment free from sexual discrimination is of the highest priority for Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU). Sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence and domestic violence are violations of Title IX and are not tolerated at NEIU. NEIU complies with all local, state and federal laws addressing sexual misconduct. The Title IX Office oversees NEIU’s Sexual Misconduct policy. If a student or employee experiences an incident of sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, stalking, dating violence and domestic violence, the following rights and options are available.

REPORTING: A student or employee can determine whether to report or not to report the incident to NEIU (via the Title IX Coordinator), law enforcement, the Confidential Advisor, or any combination. For additional information on how to make a report of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment, including which reporting options provide confidentiality options, please see the NEIU Title IX webpage.

RESOURCES: Key resources include:

- **Title IX Office** (NEIU): Provides access to informal resolutions or formal investigations, interim measures, and help navigating on and off campus health and mental health services, counseling, and advocacy services. Natalie Brouwer Potts, Main Campus C-216, Title IX Coordinator, npotts@neiu.edu, 773-442-5412.

- **Confidential Advisor** (NEIU): Provides emergency and ongoing support to student survivors of sexual violence. Informs students of rights and reporting options and provides resources and services. Not required to notify the Title IX Coordinator of any sexual misconduct reports. Rae Joyce Baguilat, Confidential Advisor, Main Campus - Pedroso Center - B 159, (773) 442-4686, confidentialadvisor@neiu.edu.

- **Student Counseling Services** (NEIU): Provides students with free and confidential counseling support. Not required to notify the Title IX Coordinator of any sexual misconduct reports. Main Campus B-119, (773) 442-4650, counsect@neiu.edu.

- **University Police Department** (NEIU): Provides law enforcement assistance. Students or employees may discuss options for pursuing criminal charges and receive help with No Contact Orders. Main Campus PF Building, (773) 442-4100, police@neiu.edu.

- Medical Facilities: The closest medical facilities where a medical forensic exam (i.e., a “rape kit”) can be conducted at no cost are as follows for each NEIU location:
  - Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, Mercy Hospital & Medical Center, 2525 S Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60616, 312-567-2000, http://www.mercy-chicago.org/emergency-medicine
  - Center for College Access and Success, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, 250 E. Erie St., Chicago, IL 60611, 312-926-5188, http://emergency.nm.org/
INTERIM MEASURES: Reasonable measures to provide immediate support and protection to persons who report sexual misconduct or retaliation. Available for both parties and individualized based on the information gathered by the Title IX Coordinator, making every effort to avoid depriving student parties access to their education. Examples of interim measures: No Contact Orders; class or work schedule changes; housing changes; academic support or adjustments; transportation arrangements; and safety planning.

INVESTIGATION: NEIU will address all reports of sexual misconduct or sexual harassment, including anonymous complaints. NEIU’s Complaint resolution procedures are available here in Appendix B, including the processes for Informal Resolution and Formal Investigation. NEIU will generally provide immunity from student conduct violations for potential alcohol or drug violations in connection with a Title IX case. Summary of complaint resolution process:

- **Informal Resolution:** Title IX Office can conduct mediation for non-sexual assault cases on a voluntary basis, based on the willingness of the parties and the conduct at issue. Title IX Coordinator will attempt to achieve a mutually acceptable resolution within 30 calendar days.
- **Formal Investigation:** Title IX Office can conduct a prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation to determine if a violation of the Sexual Misconduct policy occurred. Once the investigation is complete, parties will have an opportunity to review a draft of the Investigative Report and submit any additional comments/evidence to the investigator with three calendar days. The Dean of Students will make a decision on the merits of the complaint and both parties will be provided the outcome within seven calendar days of the final decision. The Dean of Students will decide the sanctions, if any. Appeals to the President may be made by either party in writing within 10 business days from the date of the decision. The President’s decision will be emailed to the appealing party within 60 calendar days from receipt of the appeal request and within seven calendar days from the date the appeal decision was made. The President’s decision is final.

RETAILATION: NEIU strictly prohibits retaliation, which is any significant adverse action against a person because the person in good faith participated in a Title IX process.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS: Students registered with Student Disability Services (SDS) who believe they require a reasonable accommodation to assist with the any part of the Title IX process should contact SDS. Main Campus D-104, sds@neiu.edu, 773-442-4595. Employees requesting a reasonable accommodation should contact the Disability Coordinator at eeo@neiu.edu or (773) 442-5412.

PRIVACY: NEIU shall make every reasonable effort to preserve an individual’s privacy and protect the confidentiality of information related to sex discrimination as allowed under the law. The University may issue an N-Alert, an alert through the official emergency notification and warning system, to notify the community about public risk.

RESOURCES: For additional guidance on resources, on and off campus, see these materials: Title IX Response Chart and Title IX Reporting Chart.