Deans, Directors, Department Chairs, and Administrative Officers

As we move into the new academic year, I’d like to provide an update on a new program to support the University’s commitment to maintaining an environment in which all persons who live, work, and learn in our campus community can be free of sex discrimination, including sexual harassment and sexual violence.

You may recall that UCLA is obligated under law and policy to provide our graduate and professional school students with sexual violence prevention education. The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 requires that all new students be offered prevention and awareness programs with specific content mandated by law. In addition, the University of California’s Interim Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence (June 17, 2015) requires each campus to provide mandatory sexual violence prevention education to all incoming students to promote awareness of sexual violence, the definition of consent, options for bystander intervention, and risk reduction awareness information.

Starting this academic year, each incoming graduate or professional school student will be required to complete an online educational program Think About It: Graduate Students to fulfill our mandated legal and policy requirements for sexual harassment and sexual violence prevention education. Think About It: Graduate Students recognizes graduate students’ unique position on campus and gives them the tools they need to play an important role in UCLA’s sexual harassment and sexual violence prevention efforts.

Below are some questions and answers regarding the training requirements and the delivery of Think About It: Graduate Students. Should you have other questions, do not hesitate to contact UCLA’s Title IX coordinator, Kathleen Salvaty (ksalvaty@conet.ucla.edu), who has been working with the Graduate Division in meeting these important mandates.

Thank you again for your commitment to eliminating sexual harassment and sexual violence in our UCLA community.

With best wishes,

Robin L. Garrell
Vice Provost for Graduate Education
Dean, Graduate Division
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS REGARDING GRADUATE DIVISION’S
SEXUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION

Q. What is Think About It: Graduate Students? It is an interactive online course that addresses issues of sexual violence and sexual harassment prevention. The program provides all of the content required by recent federal law as well as that required by the UC Interim Policy on Sexual Harassment and Sexual Violence.

Q. How did you choose Think About It: Graduate Students as the form of online training for all graduate and professional school students? After reviewing a number of online options, we decided Campus Clarity’s Think About It was the best option for our graduate students. Campus Clarity has been cited as a resource by the White House on its sexual violence prevention site www.notalone.gov. Recently, President Napolitano approved system level funding for contracts with Campus Clarity.

Q. How long is the Think About It: Graduate Students program? The length of the program will vary based on the graduate student’s engagement. We expect the program to take between one to two hours.

Q. How will the program be delivered? Each graduate student will receive an email invitation to link to the Think About It program. Although the email will be sent and coordinated by the Graduate Division’s Director of Information Technology, the email will be electronically signed and sent by the Dean of Law, Medicine, Dentistry or the Graduate Division, as appropriate. For example, a law student will receive the email from Dean Mnookin.

Q. When will graduate students receive the email inviting them to participate? We are targeting a launch date of August 15, 2015 for all new graduate students, including students in the professional schools. We expect to send the invitation to returning graduate students later this fall.

Q. Is a graduate student’s participation in Think About It: Graduate Students really required? Yes.

Q. Do graduate students who receive in-person sexual violence prevention education at orientation still have to complete Think About It: Graduate Students? Yes. President Napolitano’s Task Force on Preventing and Responding to Sexual Violence and Sexual Assault recommends that incoming students receive multiple educational opportunities regarding sexual violence prevention in the first six weeks of school. Completion of Think About It: Graduate Students is required of every graduate student, and we expect that many students will receive additional prevention education at orientation.

Q. How will the requirement of completing Think About It: Graduate Students be enforced? The Graduate Division will track all students’ participation. Graduate students who have not completed Think About It: Graduate Students by the
end of the fall quarter will have an enrollment hold placed on their records beginning January 2016.

Q. Does *Think About It: Graduate Students* satisfy the AB 1825/supervisor training requirement that TAs may be required to take? No. TAs will be provided additional supervisory training, separate from *Think About It: Graduate Students*.

Additional questions may be directed to Kathleen Salvaty, Title IX coordinator at (310) 206-3417 ksavalty@conet.ucla.edu, or Robin Garrell, Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate Division at rgarrell@grad.ucla.edu.