

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

WOMEN AND GENDER RESOURCE CENTER

FY23 Student Services Fee One-Time Request (a)

Background

The Women and Gender Resource Center (WGRC) is requesting FY2023 base funding in the amount of \$15,900 to cover our federally mandated trainings and workshops under the Sexual Misconduct Support Services (SMSS) program as well as \$9,010 for professional development of SMSS staff. Because the WGRC, alongside with Equal Opportunities Services and UH Wellness, is tasked with providing these trainings for the Annual Security Report and federal compliance audits, we are requesting this work be base-funded rather than funded through one-time requests.

Current SMSS Needs

In FY22, SFAC approved \$44,520 for WGRC programming with \$15,900 of that going towards the Sexual Misconduct Support Services programming, trainings, and videos. These programs like the Red Zone, Take Back the Night, Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and Domestic Violence Awareness Month are all part of federally mandated prevention and response programs.

Under Texas Senate Bill 212, all faculty and staff members are designated reporters who face fines and termination if they fail to report incidents of sexual misconduct. The WGRC's COMPASS: Sexual Misconduct Response Training and Title IX video series both address ongoing training needed for our entire UH community. These programs train the campus on compassionately and compliantly handling disclosures of sexual violence better supporting our victims and survivors.

Under the Jeanne Clery Act, universities are required to provide access to housing relocation, transportation, academic accommodations, counseling services, and legal advice. The WGRC facilitates these services for every individual involved in Title IX investigations or who has made confidential reports.

Under previous Violence Against Women Acts (VAWA), which is currently being considered for reauthorization in 2021, universities must offer prevention and awareness programs including consent education, policy workshops, domestic violence recognition programs, and sexual violence awareness campaigns. VAWA and Title IX guidance both require equitable support services provides for all parties involved in a complaint or investigation.

Best practice in the field of sexual violence advocacy requires ongoing certification and professional development. The Director and both Sexual Misconduct Support Services Manager must undergo annual trainings. Additionally, in FY20 and FY21, the UH WGRC staff were selected to present at multiple

national conferences. To attend these conferences and continue bringing national recognition to the division and university, we are requesting the following funding to supplement the Center:

Programming and Administration:

SMSS Programming (Red Zone, Take Back the Night, etc.)	\$ 2,500
SMSS Trainings	\$ 2,500
SMSS Case Management Software	\$10,000
6% Admin Fee	\$ 900
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TOTAL	\$15,900

Professional Development:

National Sexual Assault Conference (attendance x2)	\$ 3,500
SMSS Certifications (x3)	\$ 3,600
Local Student Affairs Conference	\$ 1,400
6% Admin fee	\$ 510
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TOTAL	\$ 9,010

GRAND TOTAL	\$24,910
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Programming & CORE Student Ambassador Program

In FY23, the WGRC is looking to continue hosting our signature programs, which educate on how gender inequity influences students' social interactions (e.g. gendered pressure around alcohol consumption), mental well-being (gender-based discrimination), and academic performance (gendered familial expectations), and provide the necessary support resources for challenging these inequities. The WGRC intends to do this through expanding the EMPOWER Women's Leadership Conference, offering more diverse gender equity trainings and workshops, and celebrating the service and leadership of women across campus at the Phenomenal Woman event.

In FY22, SFAC approved \$17,808 for programming and the CORE Ambassador Program. The WGRC is requesting the same amount of one-time funding for FY2023.

Gender Equity Programming (Gender Pride Week, THE HIVE, etc).	\$ 5,000
Gender Equity Training	\$ 2,500
Phenomenal Woman Speaker Series/Awards	\$ 5,000
EMPOWER Women's Leadership Conference Speakers	\$ 1,500
CORE Ambassador Program	\$ 2,800
6% Admin Fee	\$1,008
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TOTAL	\$17,808

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FY23 Student Services Fee One-Time Request (c)

Marketing Campaigns

In FY23, the WGRC is looking to rebrand its programs and potentially debut a new department name. The rebrand will include debuting a new website, updated flyers, direct mail fundraising campaigns for scholarships, and a recognition program. These efforts are intended to expand WGRC's outreach and connection with the broader student body.

In FY22, SFAC approved \$2,332 for marketing. The WGRC is requesting the same amount of one-time funding for FY2023.

Marketing Campaigns	\$ 2,200
6% Admin Fee	\$ 132
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TOTAL	\$ 2,332

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FY23 Student Services Fee One-Time Request (d)

Professional Development

Due to an FY20 cut to the department's Ledger 2 M&O, the WGRC's professional development funds have since come from SFAC. Prior to COVID-19, the staff attended conferences such as the National Sexual Assault Conference, Association of Title IX Administrators Conference, and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators. These conferences are necessary for two primary reasons: 1) federal regulations require staff working in sexual misconduct support services to hold certifications provided at conferences 2) the WGRC professional staff is consistently selected to present at these conferences, bringing national attention and esteem to our department. If FY21, WGRC was asked to present at the Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education, the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA) conference, and the NASPA Multicultural Institute.

These professional development funds would be used by the Director, Program Manager for Gender Equity Programs, and the Graduate Assistant. Professional Development for the SMSS Program Managers are line-itemed in the SMSS request to provide for federally mandated certifications and conferences.

Professional Development	\$ 8,000
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6% Admin Fee	\$ 480
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TOTAL	\$ 8,480
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