

Recommendation from the Student Affairs Committee

In the 2007-2008 academic year, the UGA community was rocked by a series of revelations regarding multiple and recurring instances of sexual harassment on campus. As a response, the procedures by which the University responds to an allegation of sexual harassment were changed. The unit that handles such complaints was moved from the Office of Legal Affairs to the Equal Opportunity Office, and an Ombudsperson program was established to provide a neutral space for airing and discussing student, staff, and faculty concerns and allegations. It has been two years since those new policies went into place. In the interest of assuring that those changes have adequately addressed the problem and are meeting student needs, the Committee on Student Affairs unanimously approved the following motion:

- “The Student Affairs Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that University Council appoint a committee to review the procedures for handling allegations of sexual harassment and how these have taken place over the past two years. The purpose of the review is to examine and improve the effectiveness of procedures currently in place.”

Guidelines for how the committee should be constituted:

- Two faculty members
- One staff member
- Two students (one undergraduate, one graduate)
- Two non-UGA members (one from another institution with experience doing this of work, e.g. “best practice” or a program that is recognized as having done effective work; one with legal expertise in the area of sexual harassment).”