

Dear Campus Community,

The most recent story published in the LA Times yesterday may be both disturbing and potentially triggering to those in our community. First and foremost, we want to make clear that we stand in support of victims of sexual assault and sexual harassment (SASH) and any form of discrimination.

Now more than ever, it is important to clarify and emphasize that we condemn the actions of those who have corrupted our campus environments that were intended to be spaces of safety, empowerment, and growth.

The safety of our community and our relationship with the U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD) and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) are of paramount importance. In partnership with the other State Maritime Academies (SMAs), Cal Maritime is working with our federal partners to harmonize any new reporting obligations regarding SASH incidents with current Department of Education and CSU requirements under Title IX.

As we've disclosed to the LA Times on multiple occasions, Cal Maritime has communicated with MARAD regarding incidents consistent with our current Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Currently, Cal Maritime communicates any serious ship-related accident or injury, death, any damage to or caused by the TSGB, and any damage to the marine environment. Our current MOA is explicit about our obligation to communicate such incidents; however, MARAD has recently brought forward an additional reporting requirement for SASH incidents. Our campus and the other SMAs are actively working with MARAD on the revisions to the MOA, and we will adhere to any new requirements. While we work to implement any new reporting requirements to MARAD or the USCG, we remain mindful of the intersection with the federal privacy rights of our students and confidentiality requirements of Title IX.

We are dedicated to advocating for broader institutional changes to create a culture of consent. The most vulnerable portions of our campus community must have the resources for social, health, and general wellbeing to assist them regardless of whether or not they choose to report. We are committed to teaching consent holistically and encourage bystander interventions while actively standing against the victim-blaming and shaming that is still all too common.

We encourage anyone who is in need of support or who has questions about Title IX to reach out to our Title IX staff at titleix@csum.edu or Vice President Kathleen McMahon at kmcmahon@csum.edu. Additional resources can be found by visiting the Title IX resource page at www.csum.edu/title-ix/index.html.

Incidents of sexual misconduct on U.S. Vessels can be reported to the USCG CGIS by email at cgistips@uscg.mil or via their 24/7 phoneline at (202) 327-2100.

Our Confidential Advocate can be reached confidentially through a dedicated phone number and email: (707) 724-9606 orplester@csum.edu.

Counseling resources are also available for our cadets, faculty, and staff. Cadets can schedule an appointment by calling or visiting the Student Health Center (SHC) at (707) 654-1170. Daily drop-in visits are available at the SHC from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. After-hours support is available by calling the SHC (x1170 Ext. 1). Consultation support is available to faculty and staff. For more information, visit www.csum.edu/caps. Faculty and staff are encouraged to utilize the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). More information for EAP can be found by visiting www.csum.edu/hr/eap.html.