MEMORANDUM

To: Tih-Fen, Chair of UIS Senate

From: Tim Barnett, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Re: Progress Report on Status of Campus Violence and Sexual Assault

Date: November 30, 2009

There is much that has been done by Student Affairs in previous years as well as this year to educate students and others on violence and sexual assault prevention. This document summarizes the collaborative efforts taking place within the Division of Student Affairs to prevent alcohol and substance abuse and sexual assault. Many departments in the Division develop and implement programs and services to educate UIS students and the campus about healthy lifestyles and prevention strategies to reduce the negative consequences of substance use, including sexual assault and other forms of violence.

Counseling Center
The Counseling Center has been involved in a number of initiatives to educate the campus about violence and appropriate responses to violence. These initiatives include:

1. Crisis intervention training for Housing Resident Assistants. This includes information about crisis response for situations involving depression and suicidal ideation, domestic violence, sexual assault, and alcohol poisoning.

2. Conflict resolution training for Housing Resident Assistants.

3. Development of the brochure, Student Emergency and Referral Procedures: A Guide for Faculty and Staff. This brochure summarizes procedures that faculty and staff should take when faced with student emergencies or disruptive behavior of a non-emergency nature. It also provides information about campus resources that are available to assist with concerns about student behavior.

4. The Campus Behavioral Intervention Team evaluates concerns about student behavior and develops and implements intervention plans to resolve student situations. The
Team consists of professionals representing Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, the Campus Police and the Campus Legal Counsel.

5. Faculty development seminars on how to deal with troubled and disruptive students.

6. Anger management training is offered on an individual basis at the Counseling Center.

7. Depression Screening Days are offered as an outreach initiative of the Counseling Center, encouraging students to obtain a brief assessment regarding depression and anxiety. Follow-up counseling is available. The Center also offers individual screenings for depression and anxiety. The Counseling Center staff provides assessment and counseling addressing these issues daily.

8. A monthly class is offered for violators of the Campus Alcohol and Other Drug Policy. Further assessment and counseling is available on an individual basis. Given the link between substance abuse and violence, initiatives to address student substance abuse are an important part of campus violence prevention.

9. Crisis intervention, counseling, and referrals for students that have experienced domestic violence, sexual assault, or other forms of violence. The Counseling Center offers crisis services during normal business hours and after-hours crisis intervention via a pager system. Students, Housing staff, and the Campus Police have utilized the pager system to contact Counseling Center staff for evening and weekend emergency assistance.

New Student Orientation

1. Imagination Theatre does a series of vignettes followed by guided discussion. The vignettes range from roommate issues, plagiarism, alcohol use and abuse and dealing with sexual assault, including acquaintance rape. The discussion focuses on how each person (male and female) could have avoided the situation (not drinking, insuring clear statements of consent etc.) as well as what their friends could do to help them avoid dangerous situations.

2. The women’s center presents a work shop on sexual assault prevention in smaller groups during orientation “round robin" sessions.

Women’s Center

1. On September 17, 2009, the Women’s Center presented staff from the Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault (PCASA) in a training entitled Understanding and Helping Sexual Assault Victims.

2. The Women’s Center gave out the magnets with important phone numbers related to sexual assault and relationship violence.

3. The Women’s Center completed a manual on UIS and Springfield Area Resources.
4. For the last two years, the Women’s Center has presented at Resident Assistant training on the subject of sexual assault. The Center does an overview then discuss survivor services and reporting. The Center also concentrates on Bystander Intervention – paying careful attention to what you observe in your residents.

5. For quite a few years now, the Women’s Center has presented six 25 minute workshops in the annual Round Robin day for first year students. This year, the incarnation was titled after an MTV show: Real Life: I Want Safe, Healthy and Happy Relationships.

6. The Women’s Center has created an hour workshop entitled Oh, the People You’ll Meet: Safe, Healthy and Happy Relationships. Last year it was presented as a freestanding event in Founders Hall, at Resident Assistant training and in UNI 101 classes.

7. Our WhistleStop key tags have information on reporting a crime and what to do if you are sexually assaulted. It also has sections on how to help someone, what men can do and male rape. Whistles with key tags are available to all UIS students.

8. Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) is offered twice a year. The trainers are two UIS Police officers. In the first night of the 12-hour program, the officers discuss awareness and prevention – and also reporting a rape or other crime.

9. The Women’s Center plans to do the Third Take Back the Night in April in conjunction with LLCC.

10. The Women’s Center and the Women’s Issues Caucus club have been producing The Clothesline Project since 1994 – almost always once annually and sometimes twice.

11. The Women’s Center occasionally brings speakers such as last April’s Women’s Center/ECCE event presenting Michelle Garcia of the national Stalking Resource Center.

12. The Women’s Center has a large array of brochures in the SLB hall just outside their door. Some of the most accessed are those from Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault (ICASA), PCASA and Sojourn Shelter and Services. Most focus on women but one is specifically for male survivors and another specifically about children.

**Housing and Residence Life**

1. Training of RA’s about the issues related to violence, sexual assault and rape and how to address them on their floor or courtyard.
2. A variety of educational programs offered on the residence hall floors and courtyards on the topics of violence, sexual assault and rape.

Other Programs
1. Safe Zone Training: Conducted with other Student Affairs departments, two phases of training are offered during the fall and spring semesters. Brown Bag events with mini-presentations on LGBTQ issues are held 2-3 times per semester. Safe Zone information is provided during Preview and Orientation Days so that new, incoming students are aware that the University supports the campus LGBTQ community and has resources available to them.

2. Domestic Violence Awareness Month: e-mail quiz on domestic violence and abuse is sent by e-mail to students; those responding with the most correct answers are awarded small prizes, which are distributed at a display table in the Public Affairs Center. Display table has information about sexual abuse, violence, date rape, child abuse, etc.

3. The Campus Health Service Director serves on the Sojourn House Task Force which works on educating health care providers about domestic violence.

4. Semester meeting with Resident Assistants to discuss issues they may encounter with students.

5. National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness and Red Ribbon Week: promotion and support.

6. Annual Health Awareness Program at which health awareness displays include HIV screening, blood drive recruitment, domestic violence, healthy lifestyle information, etc. Climate change (global warming, pandemic flu, etc.) and personal health will be the theme for 2008 Health Awareness Day.

Future Areas of Focus
1. Update division websites, which address the topics of violence and sexual assault on campus.

2. Work with athletics to develop a peer-to-peer mentoring program to address prevention of violence and sexual assault.

3. Integration of violence, rape and sexual assault training into the UNI 101 courses.

4. Support of the program being developed for men against Rape and Sexual Assault.

5. Develop a list of Best Practices by other universities in the prevention of violence, rape, sexual assault.
Summary
Violence on campus takes many forms—including rape, assault, fighting, hazing, date or acquaintance violence, sexual harassment, hate and bias-related violence, stalking, rioting, disorderly conduct, property crime, even self-harm and suicide and increasing lack of civility. While there is no single factor that causes campus violence there are many individual characteristics which can attribute to violence on campus in addition to the campus climate and community environment. While there has been a significant amount of research on how to prevent violence it is difficult to obtain reliable statistical data to support these efforts. At best it can be said that common sense would dictate that these responses should influence the decrease in violence. Student Affairs will continue working with other departments and individuals in training, education and prevention of violence and sexual assault on campus.