

Office of the Registrar

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29 August 2017

Kyra Gillies, Chris Lam, Luca Elder

By email: fyi-request-6337-b55bb5ad@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Kyra, Chris and Luca

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 17.25 – REPORTED SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT

I refer to your email dated 1 August 2017 where you requested information on reported sexual violence and harassment by type and year over a 10 year period, and the outcome of these reports.

The information you have requested is below. Due to a change in incident reporting software in 2010, the University has little access to information from before this time.

1. *Unwanted filming of a person in a sexually harassing / demeaning way.*
No incidents reported.
2. *Nonconsensual photo and / or video sharing of a person's intimate and / or sexual photos / videos.*
No incidents reported.
3. *Online or in-person sexual harassment in the form of comments, persistent harassment for sex, stalking and or rape threats.*

2008	- Sexual harassment, reported by student
2011	- Sexual harassment, reported by students - Sexual harassment, reported by non UC people - Sexual harassment, reported by staff - Sexual harassment, reported by student
2012	- Sexual harassment, reported by student - Sexual harassment, reported by student
2013	- Sexual harassment, reported by staff - Sexual harassment, reported by student - Sexual harassment, reported by staff
2014	- Sexual harassment, reported by student
2015	- Sexual harassment, reported by student

4. *Sexual assault and/or unwanted groping.*

2013	- Sexual assault on campus, reported by staff
2017	- Sexual assault off campus, reported by staff

5. *Rape (including anal and digital rape).*
None reported. All our records indicate "sexual assault" not specifically rape.
6. *Intimate partner violence in which sexual violence has been involved.*
None reported.

7. *Flating violence in which sexual violence has been involved.*

2012	- Sexual harassment in a flating situation, reported by student
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8. *Statistical date of the number of expulsions, trespass orders and reparations that have occurred after such reporting's of the accused.*

None recorded.

This information is only what is formally reported to the University. UC is aware that students may experience sexual harassment or assault and choose not to report it. The University can only act on incidents or issues that are reported to it, and UC and the halls actively encourage students to do so. Students have a right not to report incidents, and in such circumstances their privacy and any decisions not to access support are respected. Instances also occur where an incident is reported but the student does not wish it to be taken any further.

The University recognizes its duty of care towards all students. It takes the safety and security of all students very seriously. The University makes considerable efforts to ensure that students are aware of their responsibilities to themselves and others from the time they arrive at UC and afterwards. Safety, security and wellbeing messages are part of Orientation and are regularly reinforced throughout the year, both on campus and in halls, using a range of channels including online at <https://www.mystudentvillage.com/nz/uc-accommodation/resources/>

UC has designated safe walking routes through campus and there is an escort programme to walk students home to nearby halls at night. Students are encouraged to report anything that looks out of place. 13 Security Towers were installed across campus in 2012, greatly enhancing security and UC's ability to respond to emergencies. The towers include emergency call buttons, blue lighting, low-light CCTV cameras and, when activated, warning beacons to alert everyone in the vicinity.

UC pays close attention to matters of campus safety, security and student wellbeing and there are regular meetings to discuss these topics and address any issues that arise. UC Accommodation Services and the halls of residence meet monthly. Health and Safety is a mandatory agenda item. Any other issues or trends are discussed, respectful of the privacy of individuals. There is also a quarterly meeting with halls of residence, with attendees including the UC Director of Student Success, UC Accommodation Services, UC Security and the UCSA.

The University will always defer to the Police to investigate matters where a crime is alleged to have occurred. The University does not always know who a victim is, or if they are a student. Should the University become aware, it offers support, encourages reporting to the Police, and supports any investigation while maintaining the victim's right to privacy. This is particularly important in matters where automatic name suppression would apply in court.

The University is also mindful that, should any matter progress to court and the defendant is a student, it must retain a presumption of innocence until a conviction is recorded and cannot progress any disciplinary process in parallel to a police investigation or court process.

Information reported to University counsellors, advisors, or in support of an application for an Aegrotat, extension, or other special consideration of grade is not included in the above statistics. This information is reported in confidence, and therefore withheld under s9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, and s9(2)(ba)(i) information subject to an obligation of confidence, where making the information available would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information. The expectation of confidence ensures students feel comfortable raising sensitive matters with staff so they can obtain the assistance they require. This information is not catalogued by type, and would also require extensive cross referencing to determine, and as such is withheld under s18(f) as it would require substantial collation or research. As this is a partial refusal of your request, you have the right under s28 (3) of the Act, to request the Ombudsman to review this refusal.

Yours faithfully



Tom Norcliffe
Associate Registrar
Information and Records Manager