



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Dr. E. Gordon Gee, President
The Ohio State University
190 North Oval Mall
Columbus, Ohio 43210

JUN 23 2010

(In reply, please refer to case number 15-10-6002)

Dear Dr. Gee:

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), the civil rights arm of the U.S. Department of Education (Department) implements Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination on the bases of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, and age by educational institutions that receive Federal financial assistance. OCR is responsible for investigating individual complaints of discrimination and is also required to conduct periodic proactive compliance reviews of recipient practices to determine whether they comply with the laws that OCR enforces.

Compliance reviews are designed to address systemic issues and ensure that violations are readily identified and promptly remedied. Compliance review sites are selected based upon various sources of information, including statistical data and information from parents, advocacy groups, the media, and community organizations.

I write to advise you that OCR has selected the Ohio State University (University) for a compliance review under Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.* (Title IX). Title IX and its implementing regulation, 34 C.F.R. Part 106, prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities operated by recipients of Federal financial assistance. The University receives funds from the Department and is therefore subject to Title IX and the regulation.

The compliance review will examine the University's response to sexual harassment, assaults, and other forms of sexual violence involving students on campus that, if not addressed appropriately, can result in a denial of access to the University's education programs and activities on the basis of sex.

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan is committed to ensuring that all students are afforded equal educational opportunities. We believe the information and any results from this compliance review will have a direct and positive impact on the over 63,000 students at your institution.

OCR's Cleveland enforcement office will conduct this compliance review. Catherine D. Criswell, OCR's Regional Director in Cleveland, will contact you within a week of the date of this letter to make arrangements for the next steps in the compliance review process, including requesting access to data and personnel.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 245-6700. If your staff has any questions regarding the investigation, please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Criswell at (216) 522-4468.

Thank you for all you have done—and continue to do—to improve our nation's schools.

Sincerely,



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Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights

cc: Catherine D. Criswell, Regional Director, Office for Civil Rights - Cleveland