April 23, 2013

Sexual Assault Task Force
Ellen Taylor (Chair), Assistant Vice President for Student Life, and Director of Counseling Center
Elizabeth Coveney, Associate Vice President, HR Administration and Information Systems
David Eaton, Dean and Vice Provost, Graduate School
Brian Fabien, Chair, Faculty Council on Student Affairs
Cedric Howard, Vice Chancellor, Student Services, UW Tacoma
Shelley Kostrinsky, Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Personnel
Amanda Paye, Title IX Coordinator, Office of Risk Management
Stephanie Rempe, Senior Associate Athletic Director
Pam Schreiber, Director, Housing and Food Services
Naomi Sugar, M.D., Medical Director, Harborview Center for Sexual Assault and Traumatic Stress
Ed Taylor, Vice Provost and Dean, Undergraduate Academic Affairs
George Theo, Director of Student and Residential Life, UW Bothell
John Vinson, Chief, UW Police Department
Kimberly Shertz, GPSS representative
ASUW representative, to be named

Dear Colleagues:

Each of us is well aware of the chronic problem of sexual assault of students on college campuses across the country. We also know that sexual assault does grave harm to its victims and collateral damage to many others. At my request, V’Ella Warren, Senior Vice President for Facilities and Finance; Mindy Kornberg, Vice President for Human Resources; and Eric Godfrey, Vice President and Provost for Student Life have developed a plan for helping the University of Washington make sure we are doing all we can and should do to prevent sexual assault and to properly respond to every individual report of sexual assault.

A central part of our plan is the creation of this Task Force, with a focused commission to review our current policies and practices, explore best practices from other institutions, develop new practices to fill any gaps, and propose a plan for their implementation. We are fortunate to have at the UW subject matter experts in sexual assault in higher education, including Shannon Bailie, Director, Health and Wellness, Student Life; Melissa Tumas, Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence Specialist, Student Life; and David Girts, Manager of HR’s Violence Prevention and
Response Program. I encourage you to consult with them and other UW experts and provide a way for concerned groups and individuals to provide you with their information and perspectives.

We are also fortunate to have Susan Freccia of the Office of Risk Management available to support the work of the Task Force. She has already prepared the enclosed draft work plan, which would lead to a final report to me in September.

I am very grateful for your participation in this important project, and I look forward to hearing of your progress.

Sincerely yours,

Michael K. Young

Enclosure

cc: Ana Mari Cauce
    V‘Ella Warren
    Mindy Kornberg
    Eric Godfrey