



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Office of the President

Press Release 01-02

To: The Honorable Student Body of the University of South Florida Tampa Campus

From: Student Government Leadership

Subject: Update: Support for Survivors

Date: July 1st 2020

As we now are just under a week since many brave women came forward to share their experiences about sexual assault at the USF Tampa Campus. We at Student Government stand with you and are horrified at these actions and we will do everything in our power to prevent these in the future. We hear the calls to action and see the petitions being shared. We all need to stand together as it is our duty to ensure no student feels unsafe at the University of South Florida. Here are some of the actions we have taken so far:

On June 29th, Student Government met with students to learn about experiences and to hear how offices on our campus may have fallen short. Later that day, Student Government had an internal meeting within the Executive Branch to discuss ideas we had in order to be proactive.

On June 30th, Tampa Student Government leaders had a meeting to share research about sexual assaults and they are correlated with entities on campus. Also planned to have more conversations to ask some difficult questions, which are necessary to see change.

On July 1st, we had a meeting with Dean McDonald in order to understand what administration is planning on doing and share what students' thoughts about the situation. Later in the day, also met with the Title IX office leadership to share what we learned in our meeting from June 29th with students.

Key take-aways:

- Title IX is having conversations with Greek Life advisors to see how a culture shift can be initiated
- In our meeting with the Dean it was concluded that in order to have more resources for the Center for Victim Advocacy and the Title IX office we need to pinpoint where the

funding will be coming from. Please reach out to Student Government if you would like more details on this topic.

Looking ahead on future conversations:

- Student Government is looking to have meetings with Fraternity and Sorority life as well as Council Presidents to understand what actions are being taken internally.
- We are meeting with the Center for Victim Advocacy in order to learn what Student Government can help share resources while also learning what support is needed.