
Broderick Review Implementation Working Group

Chair's Communique No 6: 23 October 2018

Purpose: The [Broderick Review](#) Implementation Working Group has been established to support the development and implementation of a *JCU Plan of Action for the Elimination of Sexual Harassment and Sexual Assault* in response to the recommendations of the Broderick Review. The Group is a consultative committee and comprises a cross-representation of JCU staff and students.

The Broderick Review Implementation Working Group met for the sixth time in 2018 on October 22. The Chair welcomed Simone Ross and Alyssa Budd as Postgraduate Student Representatives to the Group (both are also members of staff).

The University participated in two events during Sexual Violence Awareness Month in October in partnership with the specialist Sexual Assault Services.

In **Cairns**, JCU was part of the Lifting the Lid Forum focusing on institutional responses. The keynote address on *Sexual Assault within university communities* was delivered by Nina Funnell, Walkley Award Winning journalist, who is a Director of EROC (End Rape on Campus). JCU and the Cairns Sexual Assault Service presented on the shared values of eliminating sexual violence on our campuses and in our communities, and on the memorandum of understanding that sets out the objectives and mechanisms of our partnership.

In **Townsville**, JCU hosted the "What were you wearing (when you were sexually assaulted)" art installation curated by the Townsville Sexual Assault Support Service with survivors in Townsville. The installation was held in The Science Place, and was launched by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sandra Harding, and the Coordinator of the Sexual Assault Service, Cathy Crawford, on the 3rd October. A [video](#) made at the launch captured some highlights of the event. The Broderick Review Implementation Working Group, and the Office of the Chief of Staff, appreciated the messages of support that were received about the installation, and the feedback from those members of the university community who raised concerns about the impact of the installation on survivors, and suggested additional steps for supporting those affected. The lessons learned from hosting the installation will inform future such events.

The Working Group reviewed progress on the Plan of Action, noting:

- **Sexual Misconduct Officer:** Damien Dunne has been appointed as HR Diversity and Equity Consultant, and will commence in November, based in Cairns. Damien will be the third designated Sexual Misconduct Officer, joining the Chief of Staff, Vanessa Cannon and Manager Staff, Equity and Diversity, Larissa Siliezar.
- **Partnerships:** JCU's work with the Cairns Student Lodge to ensure that policy and procedures, and training is accessible for students who are living at the Lodge.
- **Policy and Procedure:** A new Child Safety Policy will soon go out for consultation. This policy sets out requirements for blue cards, and mandatory reporting of incidents involving people under 18 years.
- **Monitoring, Evaluating and Reporting:** An integrated framework is under currently under development.
- **Risk Assessment systems for field trips and placements** are being reviewed, with some system integration around field trip procedures still required.
- **Staff Code of Conduct:** Consultations on the review of the Staff Code of Conduct are planned. The Code will include revisions on expectations relating to relationships between staff and students.

The Working Group considered the training component of the Plan of Action in detail. A full plan for staff and students in 2019 should be ready for finalisation at its next meeting on December 10.

The Group welcomes comments, questions, and suggestions – these can be directed through the Secretary, Dr Ryl Harrison (ryl.harrison@jcu.edu.au, or 47816259).



Emeritus Professor Helene Marsh, Chair, Broderick Review Implementation Working Group