<u>Title IX</u> Of the Education Amendments Act of 1972

(www.dol.gov/oasam/regs/statutes/titleix.htm)

What is Title IX?

<u>Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972</u> prohibits sex discrimination and harassment in education. It has been used to promote equity in education by making sure that girls and women receive equal resources and treatment in the classroom and forging the way for the establishment of women's athletic programs. Title IX also includes provisions that hold schools liable for sex discrimination and harassment.

What does Title IX say?

Title IX states,

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Why does Title IX exist?

Congress enacted Title IX to prohibit sex discrimination in any education program or activity—public or private—receiving federal funds.

<u>The Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR)</u> is the primary federal agency responsible for enforcing Title IX.

How does Title IX protect me?

Title IX's prohibition against sex discrimination is broad, protecting <u>students</u>, <u>faculty</u>, and <u>staff</u> in federally funded education programs. The law applies to every aspect of the program, such as <u>admissions</u>, <u>recruitment</u>, <u>academics</u>, <u>employment</u>, <u>athletics</u> and <u>student services</u>.

Notably, Title IX's broad prohibition against sex discrimination also includes <u>sexual harassment</u>. (Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual assault and rape are severe types of sexual harassment).

Reports of Sexual Harassment/Discrimination

Any member of the University community may report conduct that may constitute sexual harassment under this policy. An individual who believes he or she has been subjected to sexual harassment should submit a formal written complaint to the Office of Equal Opportunity within (90) days of the occurrence of the most recent alleged violation (s).

In addition, administrators, faculty, supervisors, managers and other designated employees are responsible for taking whatever action is necessary to prevent sexual harassment, to correct it when it occurs, and to report it promptly to the Title IX Compliance Coordinator designated to review and investigate sexual harassment complaints:

> <u>Title IX Coordinator</u> Renee R. Williams Office of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action A.I. Thomas Building, Suite 013 (936) 261-2123 or 2130 rrwilliams@pvamu.edu