Campus climate symposium: promoting the reduction of sexual harassment and sexual violence

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Introduction

- The University of Liberia was established 1951
- 425 faculty (30% female and 70% male)
- 688 Staff (60% male and 40% female)
- Approx. 20,000 students (65% male and 35% male)

- Student handbook focusing on student political activities and partially address sexual harassment concerns
- Faculty and Staff Handbook, Section 3, partially addresses issue on sexual harassment
Reported Cases

- Sexual jokes and gestures
- Sexual offensive words on clothing
- Touching body parts
- Interfering with an employee’s ability to move.
- Repeated requests for dates that are turned down or unwanted flirting
Reported Cases (cont’d)

- Transmitting or posting emails or pictures of a sexual or other harassment related nature.
- Displaying sexually suggestive objects, pictures, or posters
- Playing sexually suggestive music
Process of Redress

- Student Academic Advisement & Career Counseling Center handles complaints on sexual harassment

- Would-be perpetrators are usually advised.

- Sometimes a special committee is constituted to investigate.
Challenges

- Lack detailed policy on sexual harassment
- Lack structure to implement activities on sexual harassment
- Lack institutional will to strengthen capacity for handling sexual harassment issues
- No appropriate steps are taken to address would-be sexual harassment charges.
The End

Thank, for the time.