

NEWS

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Professors stood against sexual assault and encouraged students to stand with them.

(Ashley Lutz/ The Penn)



Students and faculty protested sexual assault Thursday in front of the library.

(Ashley Lutz/ The Penn)

Students and faculty stand against sexual assault

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Sexual assault has been a prominent topic in the news, and this led to IUP faculty organizing a "Stand Against Sexual Assault" on Thursday.

The organizer of the event was sociology professor Melanie Hildebrandt.

Why did she decide to schedule it that day?

"There is a call to action today," Hildebrandt said. "There has been a lot in the news lately about survivors of sexual violence and sexual assault coming out and telling their stories."

Hildebrandt is referring to the Christine Blasey Ford and Brett Kavanaugh case, the Bill Cosby sentencing and the incidents

relating to the Catholic Church.

Mary MacLeod, associate professor and chair of the philosophy department, said she would like to see change in the way the Kavanaugh case is handled.

"What I would like to see is a recognition with the consent of the President Senate Judiciary Committee calling for a background investigation specific to the allegations," MacLeod said. "It is standard procedure to do a background investigation in these kinds of cases. The fact that one is not being done in this case is profoundly discouraging to all survivors of sexual violence."

While some professors mentioned the hearings and cases sweeping the nation, they made it a point to show that they were there for all sexual assault survivors.

Diane Shinberg, a sociology professor, said she wants to see a world where all victims can come forward, whether male or female, and share their story.

Most of the protestors at the "Stand Against Sexual Assault" were women, but there were a few men there, one of them being Pablo Mendoza, assistant to the president for social equity.

"I have a lot of friends who have survived domestic violence and have survived a discrimination in the workplace," Mendoza said. "I believe it is a very important thing for all of us to acknowledge that this is prevalent and that survivors need to be listened to, so that's why I'm out here."

Mendoza acknowledged the fact that there were more women than men. He said more men should stand with the protesters because men are a part of

families, and these are issues that affect families as a whole, not just women.

"Men need to learn how to know when no means no," Mendoza said. "Men have to learn when to leave when they are asked to leave."

The first six weeks of college hold the highest risk of sexual victimization for freshmen, according to the Department of Justice.

Miranda Shankle (freshman, psychology) sees the issue and said she wants to stand up to give students the courage to share their stories.

"It's really important for people to know because it's not reported a lot," Shankle said. "It'll be nice if somebody is out there who is in some sort of domestic violence to see that there are other people, and there are people that are spreading awareness

for them, and maybe it'll make it easier for them."

The Alice Paul House and IUP Haven Project are two resources in the community for students who experience sexual assault.

The Alice Paul House provides 24-hour services at no cost to clients and are confidential. Its hotline number is (724) 357-4444.

There is also safety planning to increase preparedness for the possibility of future victimization, on-call advocacy to provide information and intervention services to victims and their families and an emergency shelter available to adult victims and their children.

IUP Haven Project provides students with counseling, support and information for students who experience sexual or domestic violence.

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The IUP community made Giving Tuesday a success in helping to establish a food pantry for students.



(Danielle DiAmico/ The Penn)

IUP hosts Giving Tuesday and food drive



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Giving Tuesday is an international day of charitable giving, and the IUP community made this past one a success in helping to establish a food pantry for students.

The student organization Each One Reach One is overseeing the food pantry project. The Student Philanthropy Council's student giving project is also giving funds to make sure it is a sustainable tool for students who might make difficult choices with their money which could leave them without food.

"We had a goal of \$10,000," said Alexander Ickes, the graduate assistant for the Office of Annual Giving. "We knocked it

out of the park."

A total of \$16,247 was raised, exceeding the \$10,000 goal, and \$8,700 will be directed toward the food pantry.

"A total of 144 donors stepped up for #GivingTuesday, of which 121 gave in support of the food pantry," according to a Nov. 28 IUP news release.

Donors on Giving Tuesday joined more than 150 students that have given to the Student Philanthropy Council's student giving project, Help a Hawk, that began in October and will conclude in the spring 2019 semester.

"It was an amazing accomplishment," Ickes said. "It's probably the largest amount of gifts we've ever had on Giving Tuesday."

IUP alumnus Terry Serafini '61

is once again challenging students in the Help a Hawk student giving challenge. The challenge for students is that once 100 student donors in each of the four class years are realized he will triple the impact of any student gift of \$5 or more up to \$25,000.

"Nearly a third of IUP students — both undergraduate and graduate students — regularly skip meals or go hungry due to lack of funds," said Melanie Hildebrandt, a sociology department faculty member who serves as the adviser of the Each One Reach One program in a Nov. 12 IUP news release. "When they have to make a choice between paying rent, buying books or shopping for groceries, food is the first thing to go. Bottom line: it's hard to perform well and do your best work when you're

worrying about food or going hungry, especially as the end of the semester approaches."

There will be a pop-up pantry in Elkin Hall Friday from noon to 5 p.m. To receive food items from the pantry, students are asked to show their I-Cards and provide some personal information.

"The need is real," Stephanie Sell, interim annual giving director, said in a Nov. 12 IUP news release. "In January, the University of Pittsburgh conducted the Campus Cupboard Study, a needs assessment of collegiate food insecurity in Southwestern Pennsylvania. More than a thousand IUP students responded to the survey — representing an incredible 17 percent. Among all respondents, 70 percent said they would access a food pantry, if it were available."

The Office of Annual Giving is always looking to partner with student organizations.

"I have a volunteer from each organization, and they meet with me," Ickes said. "Then they go back to their organizations, and they really rally their troops."

A few organizations have even reached 100 percent participation, which means every member of that organization has made a donation to IUP students.

Student organizations that reach 100 percent participation will be recognized publicly at the annual Made Your Mark celebration in April and online. For more information on how to get your student organization involved, email student-philanthropy@iup.edu.

Wendy Schanck Truby '84 and Chris Truby '85 Host Reunion



IUP alumni Chris and Wendy Truby hosted their collegiate friends for a 33-year reunion in August 2016 near Weirton, West Virginia. From left to right, front row: William Cook '85, Chris Truby '85, Clay Belgie '84, Brett Schoenecker '85. Back row: Dave Gallati '84, Tim "Sid" Powala '85, Mark Bender '83, Wendy Schanck Truby '84, David Stellato '86, Tim Nagy '84, M'88,

Tom LaCroix '86.

They traveled from near (Burgettstown) and far (Germany) to attend. They have all gone on to highly successful careers in very different areas, but they have stayed in close, regular touch all these years. At their 2016 reunion, they reminisced about the memories they have created in their times spent at IUP, and for some, their fabled rental house at 1043 Washington Street. It was owned by Dave Gallati's parents, Walter and Eleanor Galliti [Eleanor Mihalyi Gallati '54], both well known and respected IUP faculty members. And, yes, the boys rented it; it was not a gift or "scholarship." They all swear by their great bond fostered at the university—to each other and some to that rental house they will never forget.

Note: Story and photograph by Jessica Truby, Chris and Wendy's daughter, a journalism and public relations major at IUP. Her grandfather, David Truby, professor emeritus, is cofounder of the IUP Journalism Department.