

Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (SVSH) Symposium
Bridging Research, Practice, and Policy
Call for Proposals

Sexual violence and sexual harassment (SVSH) is a pervasive problem on college campuses and has long-lasting consequences for the victims/survivors and the community altogether. In 2019-2020, the Title IX Office at UCSC received 496 reports concerning gender discrimination and gender-based harm, with 112 reports of sexual assault and 219 reports of sexual harassment.

Students impacted by SVSH are more likely to experience adverse outcomes, such as those related to their mental and physical health. For instance, higher levels of anxiety and depression are common amongst survivors. SVSH also disrupts students' academic progress, resulting in absenteeism, and lower GPAs and retention rates. Although SVSH impacts everyone, LGBTQIA+ and female-identified students are impacted at significantly higher rates.

The increasing awareness of the problem of SVSH has generated numerous policies, practices, and research aimed at addressing the issue of SVSH and preventing future harm. The goal of this symposium is to bring together speakers from different areas of research, policy, and practice who work on preventing and addressing SVSH in order to highlight existing strengths in current research, policy, and practice as well as critical insights and recommendations. Each of these areas can inform the others through communication and future collaboration.

This symposium is hosted by the [Coordinated Community Review Team](#) for Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Misconduct (CCRT) at UCSC. The CCRT is charged with overseeing a collaborative approach to preventing and responding to sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking to ensure that all students, faculty, and staff, regardless of their sex or gender, have access to and can benefit from their education and employment.

We invite proposals from graduate students, faculty, and staff with a background in SVSH. We aim for this to be a collaborative and interdisciplinary symposium; all fields of work and study related to the topic of SVSH are encouraged to submit a proposal. Potential topics for submissions include, but are not limited to:

- Intimate partner violence
- Sexual harassment (broadly, or in specific contexts such as STEM fields)
- Affirmative consent
- Rape culture
- Objectification in the media
- Media depictions of SVSH
- SVSH as experienced by underserved communities (e.g., LGBTQ, immigrant)
- Support seeking and/or recovery processes for survivors
- Health impacts resulting from SVSH (e.g., mental, physical, social)
- Experiences with reporting
- Resources for perpetrators

Proposal Instructions

Proposals should be framed for a *general audience* that may or may not be familiar with research/practice/policy. Proposals should be informed by or consider the following questions:

For research based proposals:

1. What questions or problems generated your study?
2. What methods do you use in your research?
3. What are some of the main results/findings?
4. Do you have any recommendations or insights that could inform policy/practice?

For practice/policy based proposals:

1. What are the goals of the office/practice?
2. How does the office try to fulfill these goals?
3. What impact does the office have in its area of work?
4. What challenges do you or your office face and that could be answered with further research?

Eligibility

Graduate students, faculty, and staff from any department or office are invited to submit a proposal focused on SVSH-related issues.

Submission Guidelines

Submit a 1-2 page, double spaced proposal describing the research or work undertaken using the suggested questions above.

Presentations will be 10 minutes each. You can choose the format of your presentation (poster, slides, or no visuals). Please indicate your preferred format in the proposal.

Presentations should be accessible to a general audience that may or may not be familiar with research/practice.

Submit all proposals as a PDF or Word document to svshsym@ucsc.edu with the subject heading: "Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (SVSH) Symposium."

Registration Fee

There are no registration fees or any other costs for this event.

Deadline for Submissions

Thursday, **January 6, 2022 at 11:59 pm**

Symposium Date

The symposium will be held virtually in **April 2022**. More details will be provided in the winter quarter.

Questions?

Contact the symposium coordinators at svshsym@ucsc.edu. You can also contact Natali Levin Schwartz and Brenda Gutierrez, Symposium Coordinators, at nlevin@ucsc.edu or bregutie@ucsc.edu, respectively.