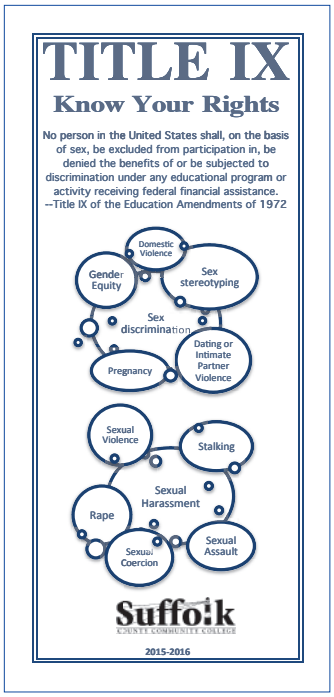



Suffolk students attended the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) 28th annual leadership conference in Denver.

great strides in creating a culture of involvement and intervention. We delivered affirmative action and compliance training to our Public Safety Officers, Student Affairs staff, and campus and College administrators. We also presented introductory sessions as part of new employee orientation, inclusive of a presentation for newly hired adjunct faculty members, athletic coaches, as well as student sessions for orientation leaders, peer mentors, and student leaders Among the resources developed in support of this effort, were the production of a new Title IX brochure, and a series of communications that included various email, portal and web messages.

Since 2013, anyone at the College who has served on a search committee for any position available with the College engages in this important responsibility by signing a confidentiality waiver and attending an hour-long diversity training session that is co-delivered by our Assistant Vice President for Employee Resources and our Affirmative Action Officer. Training includes guidance on best practices for conducting an inclusive search and selection process, a review of the logistics involved with the search, an overview of the demographics and statistics related to the applicant pool, and an explanation of the diversity goal within the College's strategic plan. During the past two years, members from over 85 search committees, empaneled at the campus level and college-wide, have completed this training.

In December, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that the State University of New York would adopt a comprehensive system-wide uniform sexual assault policy for all 64 campuses. The policy included a sexual violence victim/survivor Bill of Rights and a uniform definition of consent. A new Website was launched to provide support tools and other resources. New York is one of the first states in the nation with this type of comprehensive policy. New legislation also provides expectations to combat sexual assault and sexual violence, and outlined specific expectations for safety and responsibility on every campus, inclusive of student code of conduct revisions.

April is sexual assault awareness month, and the College was invited by Suffolk County Legislator Kate Browning to her event in Riverhead that served to highlight support programs and recognize victims' advocates. I was joined by our College Affirmative Action Officer and Title IX Coordinator Christina Vargas, who spoke about the College's efforts to heighten student awareness about available support programs and what can be done to prevent assault and abuse before they happen. In addition, each campus provided comprehensive programming including film screenings, in class discussions, guest speakers, and panel discussions to raise awareness of this important issue.

As a result of all these efforts – training, education, and communication – there is a growing understanding of the responsiveness individuals can expect to receive from the College, should an incident occur. Working closely with our Public Safety officers, we are now streamlining incident reporting to enhance our ability to deliver consistent presentation of incident statistics.

Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Les Payne, headlined the College's Second Annual National Dialogue on Race, by leading a discussion about "The Civil Rights Act of 1964: 50 Years Later." The September 18th program took place in the College's Van Nostrand Theater on the Michael J. Grant Campus. On the following day, the College offered three screenings of the civil rights film, "Freedom Summer 1964."

In October, a delegation of eight students attended the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) 28th annual leadership conference in Denver,