# Human Resources Office of Equal Opportunity & Compliance



## Creating Inclusive Workplaces:

Diversity, Inclusion, & Compliance

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## Objectives

- Create inclusive, harassment-free workplaces
- Develop awareness
- Promote reporting
- Ensure efficient response
- Resources







### Importance of Soft Skills

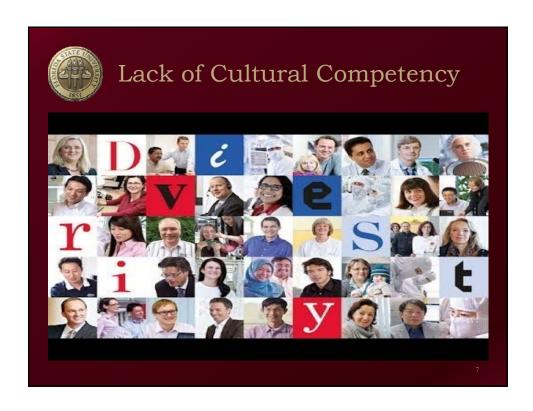
- Reduces absenteeism, sick leave, and turnover
- More motivated and engaged employees
- Better teamwork
- Creative solutions
- Better communication
- Fewer discrimination/harassment complaints
- Improved customer service



## Culture & Cultural Competency

Culture is make up of a set of values, attitudes, and beliefs that differ from one person/culture to another.

Cultural Competency is the ability to work effectively with people from different backgrounds, ethnicities, belief systems, and experiences.







## Building Cultural Competency

- Awareness of your own worldview
- Willingness to learn about other cultures
- Committing to fair and respectful treatment
- Recognize people as individuals
- Recognize your role
- Don't assume



## Creating a Positive Environment

- Respond to insensitivity
- Address issues promptly & seriously
- No one size fits all
- Put yourself in their shoes
- Be receptive to feedback



### Goal of Inclusion

Create a productive workplace where people of all backgrounds and cultures feel included, welcome, and valued.

- Inclusive
- Respectful
- Productive

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### Barriers to Inclusion

- Biases (conscious and unconscious)
- Lack of knowledge
- Passivity
- Rigidity



## Avoiding Pitfalls

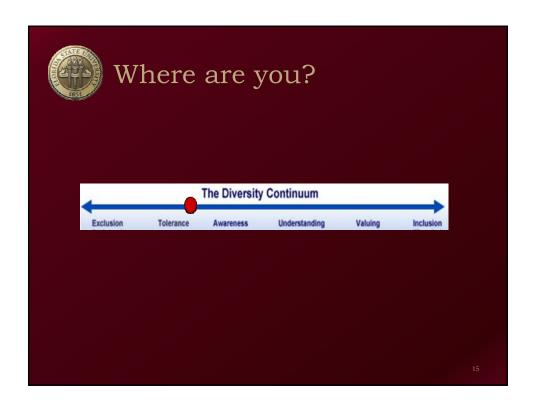
- Examine your own behavior
  - be a positive role model
  - be aware of unconscious & "like me" bias
- Challenge stereotypes and assumptions
  - ex. believing that certain groups of people are only good at certain things
- Effectively address situations
- Filter
  - avoid "in group" joking or personal matters

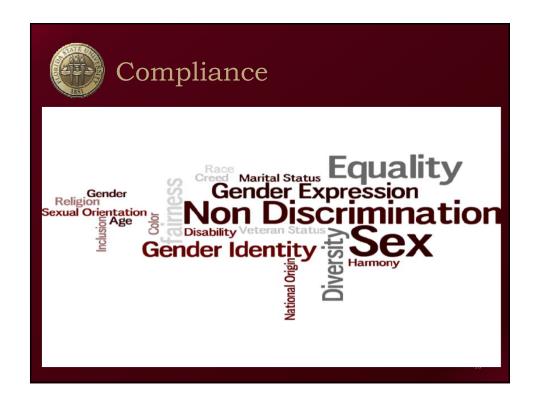
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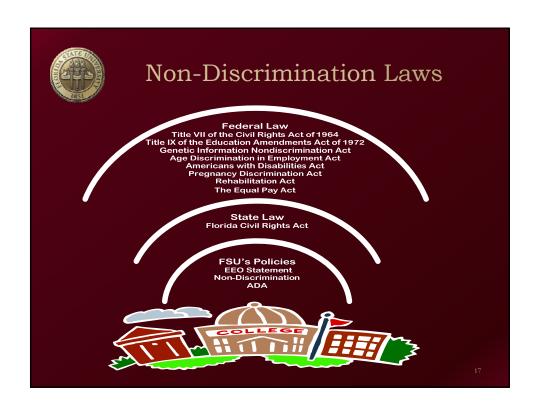


## **Handling Conflict**

- Be aware of your body language
- Be considerate and respectful
- Be accepting and open-minded
- Provide clarification where possible
- Avoid jumping to conclusions
- Seek assistance from Human Resources











### Non-Discrimination Policy

#### Prohibits:

- Denying employment opportunities
- Taking negative employment action
- Quid pro quo
- Creating a hostile work environment

Because of an employee's membership in a protected group in all terms and conditions of academics and employment.

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### Protected Groups at FSU

FSU prohibits discrimination based on:

race, creed, color, sex, religion\*, national origin, age, disability\*, genetic information, veterans' status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and other legally protected groups.

\* Duty to provide reasonable accommodations(s).



### Examples

• Dating Violence

• Stalking

- Mocking clothes, food, or physical appearance of people from different cultures, religions beliefs, sexual preferences, etc.
- Humor based on stereotyping/denigrating members of protected groups
  - Watch out for in-group joking.
- Not respecting different beliefs.
- Making fun of accents or names.
- · Hate speech.



### Examples

- Continued unwelcome flirting/requests for dates.
- Calling someone honey, baby, sugar, sweetie, or similar terms.
- Obscene gestures, sounds, jokes, practical jokes, emails, texts, leering.
- Giving unwelcome sexually suggestive compliments.
- Allowing coworkers to harass a colleague who is transitioning from one gender to another.
- Sexual violence.

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### Zero Tolerance Policy

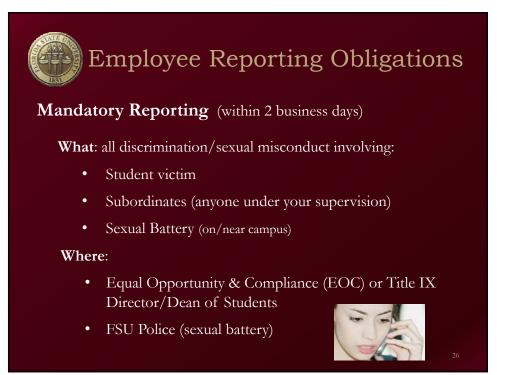
FSU has a duty to:

- Investigate
- Eliminate
- Address effects
- Prevent recurrence

Applies to <u>all</u> students, faculty, staff, visitors, and contractors.

Applies to <u>all</u> programs and activities, both on and off campus.







### Confidential Sources

### The ONLY Confidential Sources at FSU are:

- FSU Victim Advocates
- Mental health counselors
  - University Counseling Center
  - Employee Assistance Program
- Medical Staff at Wellness Center
- University Affiliated Clergy



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### Employee Reporting Quiz

Are you a confidential source?

#### NO!!!!!!!!!!!!!

You may keep the information on a need to know basis (private), but you cannot promise confidentiality. When in doubt reach out for guidance.



### Reporting Triggers

"Knew or Should Have Known" Standard

You have duty to report & respond if:

- Victim mentions
- You witness (see or hear)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Hand Reports (co-workers/police/media)
- Rumor mill



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### Non-Retaliation

Retaliation is prohibited against individuals who:

- Make a complaint (internal/external/lawsuit)
- Help someone report
- Participate in investigations
- Otherwise opposes discrimination

#### **Defined Broadly**

- Any action that could discourage a complaint
- Any negative employment action
- Creating a hostile work environment



### Retaliation is Illegal

- Retaliation is illegal/violates University Policy <u>even if</u> there was no underlying discrimination or sexual misconduct.
  - Can come from
    - Supervisors
    - Accused
    - Co-workers
- Must proactively monitor.





### Who Can be Disciplined?

### Anyone who:

- engages in discrimination/sexual misconduct
- knowingly files a false claim
- retaliates against someone
- fails to comply with mandatory reporting requirements



### **Key Points**

- 1. Unwelcome conduct
- 2. Intent is irrelevant
- 3. Complaining person need not be target
- 4. Gender & sexual orientation neutral
- 5. Consensual relationships
- 6. Mandatory reporting duties

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## Final Thoughts

#### 1. Model appropriate behavior

- Set the tone/culture (professional filter)
- Encourage reporting
- · Silence and inaction also sends a message

#### 2. Proactively manage work environment

- Know your responsibilities
- Actively promote inclusion
- If you see something say something
- Remind employees
- Regularly circulate policies

#### 2. Contact EOC in HR

- For consultation
- To Report incidents
- BEFORE taking action
- Especially if recent protected activity (Retaliation)

