



January 23, 2017

Drs. Linda Williams & April Pattavina  
Justice and Gender Based Violence Research Initiative  
Wellesley Centers for Women  
Wellesley College  
106 Central Street  
Wellesley, MA 02481-8203

Dear Drs. Williams and Pattavina:

We are writing on behalf of the Association of Title IX Administrators ([ATIXA](#)) to show ATIXA's support for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) funded project, "Responding to Sexual Assault on Campus: A National Assessment and Systematic Classification of the Scope and Challenges for Investigation and Adjudication." The goals of the project to provide useful information and tools to colleges and universities to improve understanding of current practices in campus investigations and adjudications of student-on-student sexual assault cases compliments ATIXA's contributions as one of the premier professional organizations for school and college Title IX Coordinators and administrators.

The lead researchers on this project, Linda Williams, April Pattavina, Nan Stein, and Alison Cares are a team well-equipped to handle this sensitive and important research. Their work is guided and informed by an advisory panel of experts from campuses around the country. We are confident that their research design of a scan of the websites of 969 colleges and universities, paired with interview with 100 key stakeholders, will produce valuable information.

We will encourage our members to participate in your stakeholder interviews, if they are selected as a part of your sample. We also look forward to your findings and the tools for campuses that will be produced as a part of the project, including a policy checklist (guided by federal legal requirements), guidance for conducting a website self-evaluation, and a digest of investigation and adjudication approaches including highlights of the strengths and complexities of each approach. These are tools that can be critical in providing support to schools as they work to improve their response to sexual assault, and we look forward to reviewing them.

We are happy to support this project. If you need further information or support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brett A. Sokolow", is written over a horizontal line.

Brett A. Sokolow, Esq.  
Executive Director

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