

Year 2 Public Description of Work for Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education

International Ombudsman Association

Journal of the International Ombudsman Association: Special Issue on Sexual Harassment and Discrimination, Part II – Call for Papers

Relevant Rubric Area(s): Response: Improved Policies; Providing Anonymous and Non-Mandatory Reporting; Improved Communication and Increased Transparency
Evaluation: Conducting qualitative research on the experiences of sexual harassment

Description of Work:

In the present era, social awareness of sexual harassment around the world is more heightened than ever, with significant implications for how these cases are handled within organizations. Internal International Ombuds Association (IOA) surveys have documented that organizational ombuds frequently are called upon to help with sexual harassment concerns within their organizations.

In March 2021, the Journal of the International Ombudsman Association (JIOA) published [Part One](#) of a special issue on sexual harassment and discrimination. The main goal of Part One was to increase understanding of how Ombuds respond to sexual harassment within their organizations. Twelve experienced Ombuds authors shared their stories of assisting visitors with sexual harassment concerns in the time period leading up to or during the current “MeToo” era, including details such as the challenges they faced, successful and unsuccessful practices, outcomes achieved, and lessons learned. Each narrative was published anonymously.

Part One was highlighted as part of [IOA’s year one efforts in the Action Collaborative](#) and was included in the annual public summary of work.

In Part Two, researchers from all backgrounds and disciplines are invited to analyze the collection of narratives in Part One and submit a research paper for publication in the JIOA. All research methodologies are welcome, including qualitative and quantitative (content analysis) approaches. Researchers are encouraged to identify and interpret patterns and themes in the stories and draw conclusions to further elucidate Ombuds work as confidential resources in sexual harassment cases. Authors submitting manuscripts for Part Two are asked to adopt a clear theoretical perspective or framework. For example, they might take a legal, ethical, psychological, interactional, sociological, multicultural, economic, critical, feminist, philosophical, conflict resolution, organizational development, or other approach.

Papers may focus on issues such as:

- The value of Ombuds work
- Challenges of Ombuds work
- Ombuds ethics or standards of practice
- Tensions within Ombuds standards of practice (such as advocacy-neutrality)
- Social justice issues
- Relations of power

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- Improving or expanding Ombuds work
- An agenda (legal, political, etc.) for advancing of the Ombuds profession

Website for further information (if applicable):

<https://www.ombudsassociation.org/journal-of-the-ioa#Manuscript>

Point of Contact Name: Jessica Kuchta-Miller, Action Collaborative Representative

Email Address for Point of Contact: jkuchta-miller@wustl.edu or