

**Year 3 Public Description of Work for
Action Collaborative on Preventing Sexual Harassment in Higher Education**

Center for Institutional Courage

Institutional Courage Research Grants and Publications

Relevant Rubric Area(s): Trauma-Informed Response and Education Programs; Leadership Education and Skill Development; Improving Communication and Increasing Transparency; Evaluating policies and procedures.

Description of Work:

Overview: The Center for Institutional Courage¹ – *Courage* – was founded in 2020 with the mission to advance the world’s understanding of institutional courage and institutional betrayal through rigorous scientific research, wide-reaching education, and data-driven action – with the goal to create more accountable, effective, and equitable institutions for everyone. Courage initiatives serve the larger mission of Courage to disseminate existing research on, and facilitate new research about, institutional courage.

2022 Institutional Courage Research Grant: The goal of the 2022 Institutional Courage Research Grant program is to fund research on institutional courage and institutional betrayal, with a particular interest in funding previously unstudied institutions and/or marginalized populations. Applicants may request up to \$5,000 in funding for cross-sectional projects and up to \$10,000 for longitudinal projects that directly address the Courage’s [Knowledge Base and Research Priorities](#). This is an increase in funding and scope relative to the 2021 grant program, which was described in [our previous description of work](#).

In September 2021 the Center for Institutional Courage announced its second year of research grant funding to 21 scholars from 10 universities, for eight projects that expand examinations of institutional betrayal and institutional courage. For the first time in this grant process, two longitudinal studies have received multi-year funding. The 2022 Institutional Courage Research Grants continue the Center’s focus on unstudied institutions and marginalized populations.

Empowering researchers to change the world through these projects is core to the mission of Courage. Our grant program is unlike any other in this space. Half of the projects we funded in 2022 focus specifically on higher education. They are:

1. Cultivating Institutional Courage through the MSU Climate & Response Process

¹ The terms “Center for Institutional Courage” and “Institutional Courage” are registered trademarks.

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2. Exploring the Impact of Timely Warnings on Student Experiences, Perceptions, and Behavior
3. De-Siloing Sexual Harassment Prevention and Discrimination Intervention in Higher Education
4. Building Survivor-Centered Concepts of Institutional Courage for Action

More information about these and other funded grants can be found at <https://www.institutionalcourage.org/grants-funded>

In addition to funding these external grants, we have conducted quite a bit of in-house research and writing at the Center for Institutional Courage, leading to several new publications and many more in the pipeline. Among the 2022 publications from the Courage team with a focus on higher education likely to be of interest to the Action Collaborative members are:

- Rosenthal, M. N. & Freyd, J.J. (2022). [From DARVO to Distress: College women's contact with their perpetrators after sexual assault](#). *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment, & Trauma*, **31**, 459-477. DOI: [10.1080/10926771.2022.2055512](#)
- Adams-Clark, A.A. & Freyd, J.J. (2022). [Undergraduates' noncompliance with COVID-19 regulations is associated with lifetime sexual harassment perpetration and sexist beliefs](#). *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment, & Trauma*, **31**, 851-872. DOI: [10.1080/10926771.2022.2068395](#)

More Information: More information about these initiatives and about Courage can be found at the website below, and we encourage Action Collaborative and Partner Network organizations to reach out if they are interested in our work.

Website for further information (if applicable): www.institutionalcourage.org

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