

DPMG Representative's Report: Advisory Committee on Sexual Harassment

Submitted by Anna Cranston, 9 October 2015

The three year term for the current DPMG representative on the Advisory Committee on Sexual Harassment began in 2013. Since this term began, the committee has met twice; once in March 2014 and more recently in September 2015. During the meetings, the Advisor Harassment Prevention, provides confidential data on reported incidents of both sexual harassment and personal harassment. The committee is also engaged in conversations related to awareness building and programming.

Due to the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the Faculty of Dentistry incident which unfolded in late 2014, many of the committee members and resources in the Human Rights, Equity & Harassment Prevention office were heavily invested in the response, and this work was a priority for them throughout much of 2015. The Advisory Committee on Sexual Harassment itself was not called upon to contribute opinion or activity related to the incident. This has led me to question the role and responsibilities of the committee and I initiated a conversation about this at the September 2015 meeting. It was agreed that this would become an action item for the newly appointed Executive Director, Diversity and Inclusiveness when that position is filled.