

To President Reveley and the Board of Visitors:

As dedicated students, faculty, and staff passionate about the welfare of William and Mary and its community, we want more care and attention devoted to the issue of sexual violence on our campus. As a result of a Title IX investigation, the administration has taken steps toward reform on this issue within the last year. However, we believe there is much the College can do to be proactive, not reactive, when dealing with sexual violence.

President Reveley, you stated in your December *Message to the Campus Community* that William and Mary will “continue to learn and lead” on this issue. Are we doing all that we can to share what we have learned and lead among institutions of higher education?

We believe there is more we can do.

As students at the College, our efforts are constrained to the four years we have on this campus. As the long-standing administration, your influence extends far beyond that. Together, we have the ability and potential to create lasting change far beyond what any of us can do alone. With your help, we can bring alumni into the fight against sexual violence and extend our impact beyond the College. We ask that you encourage alumni to donate specifically to programs that are dedicated to ending sexual violence on campus and supporting survivors more effectively. After a screening of *The Hunting Ground*, you said to the *Flat Hat*, “Heaven knows money is not standing in our way.” Let’s direct alumni funding toward improving the health and safety of our students and not allow money to be a barrier.

You, the administration, have the ability and potential to support survivors in their healing processes while cultivating a campus culture where students work hand-in-hand with faculty and administration on these issues. In order to achieve this, statistics relating to sexual violence at William and Mary need to be actively communicated to the student body to foster an ongoing conversation on these issues. Students at the College have a right to know: the number of individuals who have reported an assault, how many students ask for the adjudication process, and how many cases led to expulsion for the charged. Complete transparency is necessary to facilitate an honest culture of prevention and healing on campus, and to foster an environment where survivors feel comfortable coming forward.

We believe survivors have a right to feel safe in the reality that they are not alone. Because of this, we ask that the administration publicly identify locations on and off campus where sexual assault has been reported within the past years, so that all students have timely and accurate information. By communicating this information, we believe the administration demonstrates its support for survivors by refusing to veil or defend perpetrators.

Finally, William and Mary’s mission statement should reflect the values with which we lead our lives. Our community’s dedication to promoting students’ health and well-being, in addition to academic success, should be represented by our collective ideals and the documents which

express them. This act validates the paramount work of organizations and administrators on behalf of students' health and wellness.

The College is "doing as good a job as anybody," when it comes to addressing sexual violence on campuses nationwide. We agree with your statements in the Flat Hat, President Reveley, that our efforts thus far are average. We believe this mediocrity is a failure to respect the needs of our students. Doing "as good a job as anybody" means students are being assaulted in the time it takes to investigate complaints and enact policy changes.

The 2014-2015 school year has been a time of great progress; the progress cannot end here. The opening of The Haven and implementation of the Task Force are great strides toward a healthier campus. The items we have listed are things that can be done today to improve the lives of our community members. We pride ourselves on a student body that is academically and socially engaged, and we strive to be above average in all facets of life. With your help, we can change our campus promptly and strongly, to set a precedent for the next 322 years and beyond.

We, the students, will continue to make this campus a safe space for survivors. We acknowledge the need for your support, President Reveley and the Board, and we are asking for it now. Together we will position ourselves to learn and lead among prestigious institutions of higher education. The College was built on pragmatic actions that have shaped not only our institution but also our nation, and we choose to parallel this now. Join us as we strive for change in the face of adversity and foster a community of which we are all proud.

In support for the health and safety of our students,