

## Dear Hilltopper Community:

St. Edward's University is committed to providing an environment where all students, staff, and faculty are treated with dignity and respect, as created in the image and likeness of God. The university does not tolerate sexual misconduct and discrimination based on sex and gender including sexual assault, sexual harassment, intimate partner violence, and abuse. In alignment with our mission, we must protect all students, faculty, and staff according to Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and other related laws. These behaviors are incompatible with the university's mission to honor the values of human dignity and respect and to educate individuals to think and act as responsible community members.

Beyond complying with Title IX, we want to do what is right for our community. We are committed to enhancing the well-being of students, faculty, and staff through the process of finding resolution for sexual misconduct in all forms. It is imperative that St. Edward's is prepared to take immediate and effective steps to respond to sexual violence and harassment. Students, faculty, and staff are strongly encouraged to report such incidents. Please familiarize yourself with St. Edward's Title IX website as it provides information in regards to student, employee, and community support services, resources, policies, and procedures.

In my role as the Title IX Coordinator, I oversee and coordinate the university's processes, policies, practices, as well as education and prevention initiatives. This work is never done alone. I actively collaborate with Title IX deputies and St. Edward's University Title IX team, as well as the greater Hilltopper community. It takes all of us to make a difference and prevent sexual harassment and sexual violence. Please get involved by completing regular training, attending and volunteering at related events, and effectively intervening as a bystander when someone needs your help!

Sincerely,

Lisa L. Kirkpatrick, Ph.D.

Vice President for Student Affairs

Lisa L. Gerkpatrick

Title IX Coordinator