09 May 2017

UCT condemns rape and sexual assault

The University of Cape (UCT) recognises that rape and sexual assault are serious problems in our societies and universities. Both rape and sexual assault are unacceptable and criminal no matter where it happens or whom it harms.

UCT has established the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART): a multidisciplinary team of professionals who work together to address the culture of rape, sexual assault and gender discrimination that is so prevalent in South African society.

This team not only identifies and addresses ways that these types of criminal behaviour affect UCT and how we as a campus community can help prevent them but they also provide survivor-centred, compassionate and comprehensive services on campus for survivors.

The SART team is made up of Student Wellness Services staff, including a medical practitioner (or professional nurse) and a psychologist; Campus Protection Services representatives; lay 'advocates' or counsellors and a staff representative from the Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Office (DISCHO), SAPS representative from the nearest police station; a prosecutor; a representative from the Rape Crisis Centre (for students who prefer off-campus follow-up care and counselling); and a representative from the Hospital Emergency Room (to negotiate prioritised care for UCT cases). SART provides quarterly report on its activities to the university community.

ENDS

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