# PEER OMBUDS INFORMATION GUIDE And OTHER RESOURCES THAT CAN HELP NSSR Clinical Psychology Program

What is a Peer Ombuds? A peer ombuds is available to students in the Clinical Psychology program who feel they have experienced or witnessed a violation of the New School's code of conduct, while on or off campus, perpetrated by a past or present student, faculty member, or employee of the New School. The ombuds is an informal, neutral, independent, and in most cases, confidential resource for new and continuing clinical graduate students to raise questions or concerns about any aspect of their graduate experiences. The peer ombuds serves as a sounding board who also connects students to resources on campus and if applicable, provides support through the decision-making process. The ombuds does not file formal complaints and is unable to formally advocate for students in university or program matters. To maintain confidentiality, the ombuds does not keep official records of visits, other then tracking the number and general type of complaints. However, an ombuds must report situations in which students and others are in eminent risk of harm.

2016-2017 Peer Ombuds Gillian Wilson, M.A. clinicalpsychombuds@newschool.edu

If you wish to schedule a meeting, please send a brief email to the address above. The peer ombuds will schedule an individual appointment to speak in person or by phone. To preserve confidentiality, face-to-face meetings will be held in a reserved room on campus but located outside of the psychology department.

NOTE: Please note that there is also a New School Ombuds that is specifically designated to address student (versus faculty or staff) concerns. Students who prefer to speak to an ombuds outside of the department are advised to contact that office:

### **Student Ombuds**

Keisha Davenport-Ramirez <u>DavenpoK@newschool.edu</u> 212.229.8996

## **Limits of Confidentiality**

Information shared with the peer ombuds will remain confidential with specific limitations.

- 1. Peer ombuds are required to break confidentiality and take appropriate steps if it is believed that the student or others are in imminent risk of harm.
- 2. Peer ombuds will take highly brief and general notes of each encounter, only including a categorical description of the topic discussed and the action taken. The notes will be used to write an end of year report highlighting concerning patterns of student experiences found in the department. Identifying information about students will not be recorded or included in the report. The end of the year report will be submitted to the Director of Clinical Training and the Clinical Area Chair. The peer ombuds will not provide any other information to the faculty.

## What kind of assistance can I expect to receive?

- 1. The peer ombuds will listen and respond to your concerns empathetically and without judgment. In connection with these two primary roles, the peer ombuds may assist you in a variety of ways:
  - a. The peer ombuds may inform you about departmental and university policies and provide contact information for the appropriate campus offices and resources. (See below for a general list of resources.)
  - b. The peer ombuds may also engage in other activities including:
    - i. Empowering you to proactively address problems
    - ii. Role-playing or practicing effective communication in preparation for difficult conversations
    - iii. Exploring strategies for managing conflicts with peers, faculty, staff, supervisors, or administrators
    - iv. Facilitating brainstorming of possible options and strategies for dealing with difficult situations
    - v. Directing you to formal processes if necessary
- 2. The peer ombuds will be available to you until the problem is resolved. Their role is to help you navigate the resources available and to support you in this process. This role should never extend into therapy, and if it becomes apparent that therapy is needed, the peer ombuds will suggest that you seek additional help at the counseling center, or contact the counseling center for outside therapy referrals. The ombuds will respect your decision to file or not to file a formal report with the appropriate on-campus office.

#### **General List of Resources**

## EthicsPoint (<a href="http://tnssecure.ethicspoint.com">http://tnssecure.ethicspoint.com</a>)

System for anonymously and confidentially report activities in accordance with applicable Federal, State and local laws as well as University policies and procedures as set forth in the University's Institutional Policies & Procedural Manual, Student Handbook and Full-time Faculty Handbook. Individuals may file a report to The New School on this web site or by calling **877.307.1207**, a dedicated phone number with EthicsPoint.

All reports submitted via EthicsPoint will be handled promptly and discreetly and all reports will be reviewed carefully by The New School. No retaliatory action will be taken against anyone for reporting in good faith or inquiring about potential breaches in The New School's policies.

The EthicsPoint reporting System is not a substitute for existing reporting channels, already established by The New School. The New School has elected to provide this service as an additional means of reporting, where maintaining the reporter's anonymity and confidentiality is important. The New School encourages reporters to first attempt to resolve problems or disputes through established communication channels whenever possible.

#### **Student Ombuds**

Keisha Davenport-Ramirez <u>DavenpoK@newschool.edu</u> 212.229.8996

#### **NSSR** Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs

For academic concerns
Tsuya Yee
yeet@newschool.edu
212.229.5712 ext. 3005

#### **New School Sexual Misconduct and Violence Policy**

The site includes a policy document that also includes a fuller list of resources.

#### Title IX coordinator

For charges of sexual misconduct and other violations of student conduct
Assistant Vice President for Student Equity and Access
Jennifer Francone
72 Fifth Avenue, 4th floor
franconj@newschool.edu
titleixcoordinator@newschool.edu
212.229.5900 x3656

## **Director Student Conduct and Community Standards**

Gene Puno-DeLeon
72 Fifth Avenue, 4th floor
212.229.5349
studentconduct@newschool.edu

### **Campus Security 68 Fifth Avenue**

Mezzanine level (24 hours) 212.229.7001 (24 hours)

## Student Disability Services (http://www.newschool.edu/student-disability-services/)

Jason Luchs, Director 63 Fifth Avenue, room 425 luchsj@newschool.edu 212.229.5900 x3135

## **Research Support Office**

For violations of research ethics Michael Schober, Vice Provost for Research schober@newschool.edu

#### **Student Health Services**

80 Fifth Avenue 3rd floor SHS@newschool.edu

### Visa and Immigration Assistance

International Student and Scholar Services at The New School 72 Fifth Avenue, 3rd floor 212.229.5592

### Hospitals with Rape Crisis and Advocacy - 24h

Lenox Hill Healthplex 30 Seventh Avenue (between 12th and 13th Streets) 646.665.6000

Mount Sinai-Beth Israel Hospital Emergency Department 16th Street (between 1st and 2nd Avenues) – phone: 212.420.2000

Mount Sinai-Roosevelt Hospital Emergency Department 1000 Tenth Avenue (at 59th Street) – phone: 212.523.4000

## **Evidence collection procedure**

http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/protocols\_and\_guidelines/sexual\_assault/docs/protocol\_appendix\_q.pdf

#### **Administration for Children's Services**

800.635.1522

#### Hotlines – 24 Hours

Safe Horizon Emergency Hotline: 800.621.4673 RAINN Online Hotline: ohl.rainn.org/online

NYC LGBTQ Anti-Violence Project (AVP): 212.714.1141

Suicide Prevention (LifeNet): 800.543.3638

New York Asian Women's Center: 888.888.7702

New York State Domestic Violence Hotline:

English and Spanish/multi-language accessibility: 800.942.6906

Deaf or Hard of Hearing: 711

In NYC: 1.800.621.HOPE (4673) or dial 311

TTY: 1.866.604.5350

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1.800.799.7233 or TTY 1.800.787.3224.

## New York City – 24 Hours Police and Emergency Medical Services

Dial 911 NYPD

Special Victims Liaison Unit Report Line: 646.610.7272

### **District Attorney's Offices**

Manhattan District Attorney's Office – 212.335.9373 Brooklyn District Attorney's Office – 718.250.3170 Bronx District Attorney's Office – 718.590.2114 Queens District Attorney's Office – 718.286.6505 Staten Island District Attorney's Office – 718.876.6300

## **LGBTQIAGNC Resources**

NYC LGBTQ Anti-Violence Project (AVP) 212.714.1184

www.avp.org