**Bradley University Statement on Sexual Misconduct**

Bradley University reaffirms the principle that its students, faculty, and staff have a right to be free from all forms of gender and sex based discrimination, including acts of sexual violence, sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence and sexually based stalking. Any student can experience sexual discrimination; male and female students; straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students; part-time and full-time students; students with and without disabilities, and/or students of different races and national origins. All members of the campus community are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that does not infringe upon the rights of others. See University Standards of Conduct for further explanation regarding jurisdiction.

Bradley University believes in a zero tolerance policy for gender-based misconduct. Gender-based misconduct comprises a broad range of behaviors focused on sex and/or gender discrimination that may or may not be sexual in nature. Zero tolerance means that the University will remedy all unwelcome conduct of a discriminatory or sexual nature and will impose serious sanctions on anyone who violates this policy. This policy has been developed to reaffirm these principles and to provide recourse for those individuals whose rights have been violated. This policy is intended to define community expectations and to establish a mechanism for determining when those expectations have been violated.

The expectations of our community regarding sexual misconduct can be summarized as follows:

- In order for individuals to engage in sexual activity of any type with each other, there must be clear, knowing and voluntary consent prior to and during sexual activity.
- Consent is sexual permission. Consent can be given by a word or action, as long as those words or actions create mutually understandable clear permission regarding the willingness to engage in (and the conditions of) sexual activity.
- Silence – without actions demonstrating permission – cannot be assumed to show consent.
- Consent to some form of sexual activity cannot be automatically taken as consent to any other form of sexual activity.
- Previous relationships or prior consent cannot imply consent to future sexual acts.

Individuals who consent to sex must be able to fully understand what they are doing. For example, when alcohol or other drugs are used, a person will be considered unable to give valid consent if the person cannot appreciate the who, where, when, why or how of a sexual interaction. Anything but a clear, knowing and voluntary consent to any sexual activity is equivalent to a “no.” There is a difference between seduction and coercion; coercion is defined in this policy as unreasonably pressuring another person for sex. Coercing someone into engaging in sexual activity violates this policy in the same way as physically forcing someone into engaging in sexual activity.

It is the policy of Bradley University to comply with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits discrimination (including sexual harassment and sexual violence) based
on sex in the University’s educational programs and activities. Title IX also prohibits retaliation for asserting or otherwise participating in claims of sex discrimination. Bradley University has a designated Title IX Coordinator to coordinate Bradley’s compliance with and response to inquiries concerning Title IX.