Whom Should I Talk To?

As a Yale Astronomy graduate student, if you believe that a student, faculty member, or staff member has engaged in academic/non-academic bullying, discrimination, or harassment*, here are some people and offices/organizations you can consider speaking to ---

* In cases of sexual misconduct/gender discrimination, please consider contacting the SHARE Center/Title IX office.

Departmental Resources

Chair of the Department

Director of Graduate Studies

The Yale Astronomy Students' Council (ASC)
https://astronomy.yale.edu/about/astronomy-student-council

Graduate School Resources

GSAS Discrimination and Harassment Resource Coordinators:

Michelle Nearon  michelle.nearon@yale.edu
Matthew Tanico  matthew.tanico@yale.edu
Ksenia Sidorenko  ksenia.sidorenko@yale.edu
Suzanne Young  suzanne.young@yale.edu

Office of Institutional Equity and Access
https://oiea.yale.edu
A summary of Grad School policies & regulations on harassment is available at https://belong.yale.edu

Compiled by the Yale Astronomy Students' Council (ASC)
Updated 2023
Here is a little bit of more information on the offices & organizations mentioned in the previous page

**Departmental Resources**

**Director of Graduate Studies (DGS)**
The DGS functions as advisor and guide to all graduate students in the Astronomy Department. They can help graduate students plan an appropriate course of study and research. Additionally, the DGS acts as the liaison between each student in the department and the Office of the GSAS Dean, and can help address grievances related to courses or research advisors.

**Chair of the Department**
The Chair is the department’s representative to the university and the university’s representative in the department. If departmental channels fail, or if students have a grievance against any member of the faculty or staff, they are encouraged to contact the Chair. The Chair will then work with the students and the Dean’s office to determine the proper course of action.

**The Yale Astronomy Students’ Council (ASC)**
The primary goal of the ASC is to act as an official channel of communication between graduate students and faculty members within the Department. This is accomplished through graduate student meetings, discussions with faculty members, and attendance by graduate representatives at faculty meetings. The ASC can redirect you to the most appropriate resource specific to your complaint and assist/help you in the process.

**Graduate School Resources**

**Discrimination and Harassment Resource Coordinators**
Discrimination and Harassment Resource Coordinators (formerly “Deans’ Designees”) have been identified by the Dean of each college and school as community members with the responsibility to receive concerns and offer advice and guidance related to diversity and inclusion, discrimination and harassment, retaliation, and equal opportunity. Discrimination and Harassment Resource Coordinators may also help facilitate informal resolution. This may be an individual’s best “first stop” in discussing a concern related to discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, particularly as Discrimination and Harassment Resource Coordinators will be knowledgeable about resources specific to their school or college.

**Office of Institutional Equity and Access (OIEA)**
The OIEA is the university-wide office that assists with complaint resolution and investigates reports of discrimination and harassment. The OIEA is ready to employ a number of means to help resolve concerns, such as discussing your options and providing support. They are able to facilitate a mediated resolution through discussion, provide training, and conduct a factual inquiry or formal investigation into issues raised.