

Allegations

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wanted to engage in sexual intercourse. The student refused, but Reynolds wouldn't leave.

The next day the woman told Sanders, who was department head at the time, that it took her two hours to get Reynolds out of the apartment. Sanders said the woman told him about the incident because she was concerned that her refusal to have sex with Reynolds would cause him to retaliate. Sanders assured her that he would not allow that to happen.

After relating this story to Vowels, he asked her, "What kind of a woman would invite a man to her apartment for dinner unless she was interested in something else?"

When Sanders was contacted and asked about his remark, he at first declined to comment. He telephoned the Emerald less than an hour later, however, asking to change his response.

"I would never have said such a thing — that's ridiculous!" Sanders said. "I would never have said such a thing under any circumstances."

Sanders also refused to comment on the nature of relations between Reynolds and his female students.

Vowels has the impression that Reynolds' behavior was common knowledge among women on campus, she said. For years, his name was first on a list of sexual harassers written on the wall of a stall in the second-floor bathroom of the Main Library, she said. It has been painted over since then, however.

"I feel graffiti is an underground communication network for women," Vowels said. "It's also a statement that women believe that the system which is supposed to be protecting us from sexual harassment is inadequate."

When Bean Comrada, director of the University Office of Affirmative Action, was asked why a professor with a reputation like Reynolds' was allowed to go on teaching at the University for so long, she said she was unaware of the problem.

"Something like that would not be allowed to continue," she added.

"The administration had no complaints until after the indictment so they were unaware of the problem," said Peter Swan, assistant to the president for legal affairs. "Reports had filtered up in the month following the indictment" that women had complained.

The reports filtered up from the Rape Crisis Network and from graffiti, Swan said, but he doesn't believe the OAA was involved.

Swan said every sexual harassment allegation corroborated by evidence is acted upon by his office. Evidence includes admission by the offending party and eyewitness testimony, he said, and both are "highly unlikely."

His office and the OAA have difficulty dealing with harassment charges if the women make reports on a confidential basis, Swan said. He can't describe the incident specifically to the offending party without identifying the woman, so it has to be dealt with in a "fairly generic way," he said.

Swan is "outraged at women who are victimized," he said, but admitted that he is not sure to what extent the problem exists on campus.

Barbara Pope, director of the women's studies department, describes sexual harassment as a form of discrimination. Often a woman will react in a subtle manner to it, by changing jobs or avoiding professors, she said.

"The insidious thing is it's so subtle because you're put in the position of defining it all the time," Pope said. "It puts the onus on the victim to define the situation while it's happening. It has so many different manifestations."

There's no clear way of redressing the problem, Pope said. But anytime a person is in a position of domination, he has to be particularly concerned about how he treats other people, she said.

Reynolds was jailed without bail Aug. 29 after being convicted of first-degree rape and first-degree sexual abuse charges. Sentencing was deferred pending a presentence report to be compiled by the State Corrections Division.

Several weeks after his conviction, Vowels called Sanders to ask that she and a female professor be considered for the search committee to replace Reynolds. Sanders told her that he had restructured the department to include professors Thomas Brady and Jack Maddex from the history department, Benton Johnson from the sociology department and Robert Herbert from the philosophy department, and that these people would comprise the search committee, she said.

Vowels said Sanders told her, "If you are concerned that the committee will not be fair to women you need not worry."

Sanders denied forming a search committee, however. The department has hired Robert Hauck as a temporary replacement for Reynolds, Sanders said. Hauck will teach courses for the remainder of the academic year, he said.

A search committee will probably be appointed by the end of the month, Sanders said. He wants to consult with the dean of the School of Arts and Sciences and the OAA before appointing the committee, he said.

It's even possible that the dean may appoint the committee, he added.

Corrections Division Presentence Investigator Ruth Pontius submitted a report last week recommending that Reynolds be evaluated at the Oregon State Hospital to determine if he is a sexually dangerous offender.

Judge Pierre Van Rysselberghe, who presided over the case, has accepted the recommendation and has ordered its implementation.

If the hospital determines there is probable cause that Reynolds is a sexually dangerous person, it is ordered that he be committed to OSH for evaluation as a sexually dangerous person and evaluation of suitability for treatment.

The commitment is to be for no longer than 30 days, and sentencing will be scheduled pending receipt of the hospital's report and evaluation.



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