

## Call for Manuscripts

### Global Perspectives on Sexual Violence in Higher Education

*Special Issue of the Journal of International Women's Studies*

<https://vc.bridgew.edu/jiws/>

**Submission Deadline: January 10, 2026**

#### **Special Issue Editors:**

- Elizabeth Hutchison, PhD, Professor, University of New Mexico
- M. Gabriela Torres, PhD, Professor, Rhode Island College
- Ana Vidu, PhD, Ramon y Cajal Fellow, Blanquerna, University of Ramon Llull

The *Journal of International Women's Studies* (JIWS) invites submissions for a special issue examining the global prevalence and impact of “sexual misconduct” and “sexual violence and sexual harassment,” or SVSH, in higher education (HE). SVSH refers to a range of activities prohibited by law and/or university policy, including sexual assault and sexual harassment. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that affects an individual’s employment, unreasonably interferes with an individual’s work performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment. SVSH may occur in both online and offline contexts. In the US and Europe, studies have estimated that one in five women suffer sexual harassment while in college (Cantor et al., 2020; Boskovic et al., 2023). SVSH in higher education remains limited outside the United States and Europe. This critical gap in global research undermines efforts to create safer, more inclusive academic environments worldwide.

SVSH in higher education not only harms its targets and witnesses, but also fundamentally damages knowledge production and the integrity of the research enterprise itself by creating hostile environments that drive women and gender-diverse students and researchers away from academia. Despite university policies and legislative protections implemented in many countries to protect survivors and their supporters from retaliation, SVSH in HE remains pervasive globally, with survivors reporting persistent isolation and inadequate institutional support. (Lipinsky et. al., 2022; Bondestam & Lundqvist, 2020; NASEM, 2018).

This collection of manuscripts aims to make existing anti-sexual harassment policies and education more visible, to provide leaders, researchers, and advocates models for addressing SVSH in HE. Although efforts such as the 2018 National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine report have brought attention to this problem in the United States, and local and regional initiatives

are emerging in other countries, there remains a critical need for coordinated global approaches (NASEM, 2018). The lack of shared research, policies, and interventions forces scholars and advocates in many localities to start from scratch and re-validate interventions with national institutional leaders and communities.

This special issue will contribute to establishing shared strategies, networks, and communities of practice that tackle the common challenges of SV in HE through cross-cultural collaboration. We seek to create structured cross-pollination of divergent conceptual frameworks for classifying SV in HE and to identify interventions that can be used cross-culturally across various institutional and national contexts.

We particularly welcome submissions that showcase approaches, theoretical frameworks, interventions, or policy solutions that can be leveraged across different cultural, legal, and institutional contexts. While we encourage global participation, we especially seek contributions from scholars, practitioners, and advocates in the Global South, to ensure that diverse perspectives are accessible and centered in this critical conversation.

**We invite submissions in four formats:** Research Articles, Essays, Feminist Reflections, and Policy Briefs. In particular we are interested in submissions that address:

- Theoretical analyses of conceptual frameworks used for understanding SVSH in HE, including its impacts on research production, academic freedom, and campus climate
- The formation of regional and national research and advocacy networks to counter and mitigate the impact of SVSH in HE
- Case studies of policy interventions that mitigate SVSH in HE with attention to transferability across cultural, legal, and institutional contexts
- Design and analysis of quantitative and qualitative methodologies to understand and measure prevalence of SVSH in HE
- Comparative analyses of SV in HE across institutional, national, cultural or legal contexts.
- SV in academic training contexts including doctoral training or field schools
- Rising online forms of SVSH in HE
- The impact on SVSH in HE of online communities, often described as the ‘manosphere,’ where anti-feminist, anti-LGBTIQ+, misogynistic, and masculinist hegemonic discourses are reproduced and amplified (Iñigo, 2025)

All submissions must be under 7,500 words and adhere to the JIWS's submission guidelines available at <https://vc.bridgew.edu/jiws/>. Submissions may be written in Spanish or English. We encourage methodological diversity and welcome contributions that explore institutional responses, survivor support systems, prevention strategies, legal frameworks, cross-cultural interventions, and the intersection of SVSH with inclusion in knowledge production.

**Timeline:**

- Submission Deadline: January 10, 2026
- Authors will receive notification that their piece has been selected for the peer review process by mid-March 2026
- Peer review and revisions will be done throughout 2026
- Executive Editor Diana Fox will give notification of acceptance for publication in Spring 2027
- Special issue will be published in the *JWS* mid-to-late 2027

**Submission Information:**

Authors please consult *JWS*' submission guidelines: [Policies/Submissions | Journal of International Women's Studies | Journals and Campus Publications | Bridgewater State University](#) and *JWS*' AI Policy: [AI Ethics | Journal of International Women's Studies | Journals and Campus Publications | Bridgewater State University](#)

Email completed manuscripts to the special issue editors with the subject line "Manuscript Submission for Global Perspectives on SV in HE" to [ehutch@unm.edu](mailto:ehutch@unm.edu), [mgabrielatorres.phd@gmail.com](mailto:mgabrielatorres.phd@gmail.com), and [anava4@blanquerna.url.edu](mailto:anava4@blanquerna.url.edu).

For questions about this special issue, please contact the special issue editors directly.

## References Cited:

- Bondestam, F., and M. Lundqvist. "Sexual Harassment in Higher Education – A Systematic Review." *European Journal of Higher Education*, vol. 10, no. 4, 2020, pp. 397-419, <https://doi.org/10.1080/21568235.2020.1729833>.
- Boskovic, I., et al. "#StudentsToo. Prevalence of Sexual Assault Reports Among Students of Three European Universities and Their Actions Post-Assault." *PLoS One*, vol. 18, no. 4, 7 Apr. 2023, e0283554.
- Cantor, D., et al. *Report on the AAU Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault and Sexual Misconduct*. Association of American Universities, 17 Jan. 2020.
- Iñigo, A. "Navigating the Manosphere: A Scoping Review of Research on Masculinist and Misogynist Online Spaces." *The Journal of Men's Studies*, vol. 0, no. 0, 2025, <https://doi.org/10.1177/10608265251357869>.
- Lipinsky, A., et al. *Gender-Based Violence and Its Consequences in European Academia, Summary Results from the UniSAFE Survey*. UniSAFE Project No. 101006261, Nov. 2022, <https://unisafe-gbv.eu>.
- National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. *Sexual Harassment of Women: Climate, Culture, and Consequences in Academic Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine*. Edited by Frazier F. Benya et al., National Academies Press, 2018, <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK507206/>.
- United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. "Facts About Sexual Harassment." *EEOC*, <https://www.eeoc.gov/eeoc/publications/fs-sex.cfm>. Accessed 1 Oct. 2025.