



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

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BOSTON, MA 02109-3921

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December 5, 2022

Edward M. Stephens, MD
By email: estephens@malestudies.org

Re: Complaint No. 01-19-2162
Brown University

Dear Edward Stephens:

This letter is to notify you that the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is opening for investigation the above-referenced complaint you filed against Brown University, which OCR will refer to as the University. You allege that certain University programs and activities discriminate against males on the basis of sex, including employment practices, scholarships, and programs for University students and alumni, and high school students.

OCR enforces Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), 20 U.S.C. Section 1681 *et seq.*, and its implementing regulation at 34 C.F.R. Part 106, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education. Because the University receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education, OCR has jurisdiction over it pursuant to Title IX.

Please note that opening the complaint for investigation in no way implies that OCR has made a determination on the merits of the complaint. During the investigation, OCR is a neutral fact-finder, collecting and analyzing relevant evidence from you, the University, and other sources, as appropriate. OCR will ensure that its investigation is legally sufficient and fully responds to the complaint in accordance with the provisions of the *Case Processing Manual*, available at <http://www.ed.gov/ocr/docs/ocrcpm.pdf>. Please also note that complainants may have a right to file a private suit in federal court whether or not OCR finds a violation.

Please be advised that the University must not harass, coerce, intimidate, discriminate, or otherwise retaliate against an individual because that individual asserts a right or privilege under a law enforced by OCR or files a complaint, testifies, assists, or participates in a proceeding under a law enforced by OCR. If this happens, the individual may file a retaliation complaint with OCR.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, it may be necessary to release this document and related correspondence and records upon request. If OCR receives such a request, we will seek to

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protect personally identifiable information that could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if released, to the extent provided by law.

If you have any questions, you may contact Kaleigh Hogan, Civil Rights Attorney, at (617) 289-0028 or by email at Kaleigh.Hogan@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tokufumi J. Noda', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tokufumi J. Noda
Compliance Team Leader