

Office of Inclusive Excellence & Belonging Campus Climate Education Response Team (CCERT)

Description & Function

The University of Hartford Campus Climate Education Response Team (CCERT) is a group of faculty, staff and students who provide support and resources to members of the campus community who may have experienced harm based on their identity or an experience that they feel negatively impacts the campus climate.

CCERT is provided to assist those who feel impacted by campus climate concerns and to promote respect and understanding among members of the University community. CCERT is not a disciplinary body. Other offices on campus are responsible for disciplinary proceedings. Thus, the committee is undergirded with two primary goals.

Goal 1: Immediate Support and Resource Connection Provide timely, compassionate support to community members who have experienced identity-based harm or climate concerns by connecting them with appropriate campus resources/offices, counseling services, and advocacy support within 48 hours of initial contact.

Goal 2: Proactive Climate Improvement through Education Support the implementation of ongoing educational initiatives, professional development, workshops, and dialogue programs that foster inclusive understanding across campus, addressing systemic climate issues before they escalate into harmful incidents.

Composition

- **Faculty Representatives (3-4 members):** Include diverse disciplines such as psychology/counseling, sociology, education, and ethnic/gender studies to bring varied perspectives on trauma and systemic issues.
- **Staff Representatives (3-5 members):** Include professionals from Student Affairs, Human Resources, CAPS, Equity & Opportunity, Public Safety offices who have direct experience with support services.
- **Student Representatives (4-5 members):** Include undergraduate and graduate students from different groups such as class years, and campus organizations, with at least one student from student government.
- **Community Partners as Resource (1-2 members):** Representatives from local organizations experienced in advocacy, social/restorative justice practices.

Meeting Structure & Commitment

- CCERT has a core team who will meet regularly to address incoming reports.
- The larger committee will meet monthly during the academic year to discuss relevant reports, outreach, training, professional development for the campus community. Commitment of approximately three (3) meetings in the fall and three (3) in the spring.
- Additional meetings as needed.
- Commitment: one-year of service.