

Minutes
Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting
15 April 2009; 10:00 am, 1270 FAB

Present: W. Crossland (Chair), A. Goodman (AAUP/AFT Liaison), P. Jarosz, K. Padmanabhan (Non-Senate), M. Sengstock.

Absent with notice: K. Browne, S. Calkins (Administration Liaison), L. Keashly, P. Kernsmith, R. Parnell, A. Popadic, E. Puscheck, L. Romano (Policy Committee Liaison), J. Wang.

Absent: C. McNath (Student Council Liaison), S. Putatunda

[Information added after the meeting.]

1. *Call to order.*

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. without a quorum present.

2. *Approval of minutes of March 24, 2009.*

In the absence of a quorum, approval of the minutes of March 24, 2009 was tabled until the May meeting.

3. *Campus security* ♦ *Capt. Stephen Hausner, Coordinator of Line Operations, Wayne State University Department of Public Safety (Professor Padmanabhan invited Captain Hausner)*

Captain Hausner gave a brief background of the WSU Department of Public Safety and the faculty's role in its operations. The department was founded in 1966. Each officer is a fully commissioned as a Detroit Police Officer and a Peace officer of the State of Michigan. Public Safety officers have authority on and off campus, in any city in which Wayne State owns property (e.g., Farmington Hills ♦ Oakland Center) and on any highway that leads to that property (e.g., Lodge Freeway). They are the police department for the Wayne State campus area. Public Safety links to the Detroit Police via electronic dispatch system and the 911 system. Public Safety currently has 53 officers, up 20 in last 3 years, 30 cadets, 16 support staff. They work three shifts. Captain Hausner stressed the need for everyone on campus to be watchful because Public Safety personnel cannot be everywhere. Faculty, staff and students need to alert Public Safety of problems by calling them directly (577-2222). Everyone should put the Public Safety emergency number on their cell phone speed dial. If anyone sees anything or anyone suspicious, they should call public safety not wait for a crime to be committed. Captain Hausner stressed that people should not call 911. If people call 911, the call goes into the Detroit Police 911 system, then summary information gets relayed to the WSU police electronically but WSU does not have the caller on line and cannot get details regarding location, nature of problem, etc. Everyone should always call 577-2222 not 911 on campus. WSU police will keep the caller on line as they dispatch patrol car and then ask for more detailed information in order to quickly reach the location of the problem and respond appropriately.

Since the shooting at Virginia Tech Public Safety has carefully prepared their response to a similar situation. All officers are trained in immediate action rapid deployment (there is no WSU SWAT team). Captain Hausner noted that all the shooters in the incidents such as Virginia Tech and Columbine continued their actions until confronted by police, and therefore the premium is placed on getting police personnel to the scene as quickly as possible. All Public Safety officers have a rifle (or shotgun), body armor, and tools to get into locked buildings. They train regularly in order to be able to react quickly and effectively. WSU Public Safety does not rely on (will not wait for) the Detroit Police SWAT team to respond to a dangerous situation on campus, although they will be called in any emergency. WSU Public Safety has developed a DVD based on WSU training and shared it with other college police departments. Students need to know how to react in a shooting situation. To accomplish this Public Safety has also developed a training program consisting of seven

interactive modules that new students will be required to complete starting this fall (on Blackboard in Pipeline) called **Active Shooter on Campus** (modules will also be available to staff and faculty). The purpose is to tell people how to react in a life-threatening situation. Captain Hausner stressed that anyone caught in a shooting situation must try to get away. Another safety related innovation will be a campus-wide alert system on the Blue Light telephones: The telephones will have speaker system to broadcast information on the occurrence of the situation, its location and escape routes. This system will be in addition to the paging, cell phone and e-mail alerts. Furthermore, a campus-wide closed circuit TV system will be phased in to monitor events on campus. All these innovations are funded by the omnibus campus fee. Provost Barrett is very supportive.

Bomb threats: According to the FBI no one in USA has ever given a warning of a real bomb that exploded. WSU has only had one bombing (during the 1970s) and there was no warning of it given.

Captain Hausner was asked by a committee member why the buildings were not emptied after bomb threats. He replied that prior to President Noren's administration buildings were never emptied but in the fall the new administration decided to evacuate threatened buildings. However, WSU kept getting threats on test days. WSU Public Safety convinced the administration that, based on prior history, there is no need to evacuate unless there is other information indicating a bomb is likely to have been placed. Final decision is left up to dean of the affected college. Since then bomb threats have stopped.

Another committee member asked if the pass card security system used to enter campus buildings may encourage muggers to rob faculty/staff when they fumble for their cards.

Captain Hausner said that this is a valid concern to which there is no clear solution. Public Safety recommended that only main doors of a building should be open and the rest of doors under lockdown. People should call Public Safety if they see anyone acting unusually.

Another committee member noted that the pass cards do not work properly at times. Captain Hausner suggested first trying to make sure that the system was cleared, in case someone had inadvertently put a number in the system before you tried your own PIN. If it is a maintenance problem, call Sgt. George Cool in Public Safety (577-6066).

When asked about the impact of budget cuts on Public Safety Captain Hausner assured the committee that President Noren is very conscious of safety and the need to have the students and staff feel secure. Although money for an additional five personnel this year was held up, President Noren has pledged to replace the positions of anyone who retires or resigns. Captain Hausner believes that the WSU Public Safety should have 75 officers and that is the goal of the Provost. The minimum staffing for the day shift will shortly go to 13, the afternoon shift will be 12, midnight shift 8 people (not counting two or three supervisors). The Public Safety department covers the surrounding area from Trumbull on the west side, to the Chrysler freeway on the east side to the Boulevard on the north side and Mack Ave on the south, including the Detroit Medical Center.

Professor Padmanabhan asked if it would be helpful for faculty to put the campus police number in their syllabus and mention the importance of calling 577-2222 not 911 to students. Captain Hausner replied that it was an excellent idea.

4. *Smoke-free campus* **smoking survey**
The survey is being conducted. [A reminder messages has gone out on 4/16/09.]
5. *Mentoring* **Liz Puscheck**

Prof. Puscheck was unable to attend the meeting. Her mentoring report is tabled until the May meeting.

6. *Final report*

If the committee's business is not completed until the May 5, 2009 meeting, drafts of the FAC final report will have to be circulated via e-mail.

7. *Other business*

A draft report on the retirement forum is available here, please read through it and pass on any comments to the Chair.

The Chair has been in contact with C&IT since early March to obtain statistics on the usage of Faculty Tab links in Pipeline (revised by the FAC in February 2008). Only partial results have been obtained so far. Hopefully more complete data will be available for the May meeting.

8. *Next meeting:* Tuesday, May 5, 10:00 a.m.

9. *Adjourn.*

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 am.

As approved at the Faculty Affairs Committee meeting of May 5, 2009