

TO: Dr. Zvi Szafran
President

FROM: Derek Converse
Campus Safety Committee Chair

DATE: December 2, 2020

SUBJECT: 2019 – 2020 Annual Campus Safety Committee Report

Attached is the 2019-2020 Annual Report of the Campus Safety Committee. This report enumerates the activities of the SUNY Canton Campus Safety Committee and cumulative, campus-wide efforts, effectively addressing a broad range of campus safety issues. If you have any questions, please feel to contact me.

cc: Committee Members
S. Miller
P. De Cooke
C. Bish
T. Thompson
File

SAFETY COMMITTEE CHARGE

The SUNY Canton Campus Safety Committee was established to address chemical hygiene issues. When Article 129-A of the NYS Education Law § 6431 was enacted, the Campus Safety Committee incorporated personal safety as well. The Committee is a presidential committee that functions outside faculty governance.

The charge of the Campus Safety Committee is to address a wide range of campus safety concerns. The Committee's first two charges are:

1. Responding to inquiries from concerned persons and referring complaints to the appropriate authorities, and
2. Recognizing, evaluating, and recommending a course of action to solve or control safety/health problems.

These two charges are met utilizing several different means. The annual Campus Safety Walk Around includes faculty, staff, and students who do a physical inspection of the campus during daylight and after dark. The [Safety and Health Reporting Form](#) is available to submit electronic safety/health issues. Finally, Safety Committee members are very active in soliciting and bringing safety issues to the Committee for discussion and resolution. Since a majority of the committee members are directly involved in the departments that play major roles in campus safety, most issues can be resolved at the committee level.

The Committee's last three charges are:

1. Ensuring that education is provided to the campus community about personal safety and crime prevention,
2. Identify and recommend strategies to the campus for the prevention of sexual harassment and sexual assault, and
3. Make recommendations for campus implementation by sharing them with the Title IX coordinator or designee.

These three charges are addressed through monitoring, reviewing, and participating in areas that provide safety information and education, including Title IX. Additional information has been included concerning Title IX and educational programming. As a part of its standing work, the Committee reviews a number of annual reports to assure compliance with the regulatory requirements, such as Campus Security Act, Fire Safety Report, Annual Campus Safety Report, and other requirements of the Education Law, Article 129-A

2019-2020 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Safety Committee's composition meets the requirements as defined by Article 129-A of the NYS Education Law § 6431. The committee membership is reviewed annually and appointments are made accordingly. Safety Committee membership for 2019-2020:

1. Derek Converse –Chair, Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator
2. Ran Li – Assistant Professor
3. Jaylen Green – Student Representative
4. Bobbi-Ann Hoffman – Student Representative
5. John Kennedy – Director of Residence Life
6. Brian Kurish – Lieutenant, University Police
7. William Myers – Assistant Professor, Business & Liberal Arts
8. Leslyann Pinder – Student Representative
9. Jamie Sovie – Committee Secretary, Assistant Professor, Business and Liberal Arts

Ex Officio Members

1. James Hamilton – Chemical Hygiene Officer
2. Patrick Hanss – Director of Physical Plant
3. Brad Winters – Inventory and Maintenance Manager, College Association
4. Michael McCormick – Executive Director of Facilities
5. James Sheppard – Counselor
6. Alan Mulkin – Chief of University Police
7. Tina Flanagan – Benefits Coordinator
8. Julie Cruickshank – Associate Director of Health Services
9. Brett Furnia – Plant Utilities Engineer I, CSEA Representative

SUNY CANTON SAFETY COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SUMMARY

- [Two Committee meetings](#) were conducted for 2019-2020 year and the [Campus Safety Committee web page](#) is updated regularly.
- Reviewed mandatory compliance reporting for the [Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Statistics Act](#) and [Title IX](#) policies and reporting procedures.
- Fourteen campus-wide email and text message notices were sent out on health and safety issues, including; [Title IX](#) (12/10/20), [Rave Alert](#) (12/30/19, 2/7/20, 3/11/20, 3/13/20, 3/17/20, 3/19/20, 3/21/20, 8/19/20, 11/10/20), [Winter Storm Warnings](#) (10/31/19, 1/16/20, 2/5/20), [Extreme Cold Weather Outreach](#) (11/20/19).
- Members of the Safety Committee conducted a Fire Safety Day on 9/19/19, which included fire extinguisher training, a sprinklered and unsprinklered mock dorm fire demonstration and fire safety house demonstration.
- Members of the Safety Committee conducted RA/RD Fire Safety Training including a classroom presentation, hands on fire extinguisher training, and smoke-the-building activity on 8/14/19.
- Members of the Safety Committee were involved with an annual Shelter-In-Place drill organized and implemented by University Police on 2/26/20.
- Members of the Safety Committee were involved [Rave Alert](#) notifiers meeting and training on 1/24/19, which was coordinated by the Public Relations Department.
- [2019 and 2020 Annual Campus Safety Walk-Around](#) was conducted on 11/19/19 at 6 p.m. (Nighttime). Seventeen new issues/areas of concern were identified, addressed, and followed up on.
- Reviewed and revised sections in the [College's Policies and Procedures Manual](#) and the [Student Handbook](#).

COVID-19 Pandemic

This year has presented the campus with an unprecedented challenge for the campus to remain in operation. Due to COVID restrictions pertaining to in-person training, the campus relied much on providing on-line training for students and employees. There were multiple meetings on a daily basis to include the Covid-19 Response Team, the campus ERP (Emergency Response Group) and the VPG (Vice-Presidents Group) to deal with campus's pandemic response.

Although there were unforeseen problems that arose, due to the preparations previously and dealing with prior emergencies and drawing from those experiences, the campus was able to quickly deal with those situations. The campus was able to pool its valuable human and physical resources to successfully make it through the spring semester, keeping its remaining on-campus students and employees safe while providing a valuable education to its students.

During the summer of 2020, the campus community worked very hard to make preparations for students to return to an in-class experience where feasible in a safe and responsible manner.

TITLE IX

Amanda L. Deckert continues to be the Campus Title IX Coordinator. Title IX continues to be in the Human Resources office in Administrative Affairs. We are still in the process of training two Deputy Title IX Coordinators, Julian Shaw and Nicolas Wildly but this has been slowed because of Covid-19. Compliance training is no longer completed by SUNY Potsdam but is completed in house on Black Board by SUNY Canton by Derek Converse and Amanda L. Deckert. Due to Covid-19 all Title IX training was completed via Zoom or Teams for 2019-2020.

EDUCATION

There was a concerted effort to provide health and safety related programs to a wide audience in a variety of venues. Many of the Safety Committee members' departments are major providers of campus health and safety programs. Programs frequently addressed the intersection between domestic/sexual violence and alcohol/drug use. The following list highlights programs offered during the 2019-2020 academic year that addressed safety and health issues.

Counseling:

- Provided 1,541 counseling sessions
- Responded to 49 crisis interventions
- Presented/co-sponsored 181 educational programs this year with over 12,900 student contacts. Programs were presented to RA's, in the residence halls, several classrooms and due to the pandemic they were presented using Microsoft Teams
- Program topics included Beer Goggles Experience, Educational Jeopardy, and Changing Perspectives
- Awareness Tables/Campaigns for included popular themes such as Alcohol Awareness, Mental Health Awareness, Stress Management, Better Sleep, and Preparing for Finals.
- National Depression Screen Day was held in October 2019 with over 100 participants that included; screenings, video, handout and an art project

- Domestic Violence Awareness week took place during October of 2019. The events consisted of a Domestic Violence Awareness Silent Walk, Wear Purple Day, and Awareness Tables with giveaways, “Mural on the Wall” project and also a “Message of Hope” mural
- Food Pantry items were given to students who were in need. Food items, coats, hats, and mittens were the most requested. Over 596 students utilized these tables
- Worked with 122 students for alcohol violations and conduct issues

Diversity:

- 6th Annual Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service which included the MLK Service Project in which Counselor Jenn Polniak created a blanket-making workshop (including procuring and preparing the supplies) for 20 blankets to be donated to local hospital cancer centers. Students and staff worked together tying the blankets together for completion
- Movie showing of *Harriet* in collaboration with Student Activities
- Library Book Club, Fall 2019 semester
- First college-wide Circle of Understanding meeting
- Workshops to boost student leadership efforts in Residence Life and Student Activities

Health & Safety:

- Developed and implemented COVID-19 Awareness Training with input from many member of the Campus Safety Committee and other member of the campus community
- Assisted with development of COVID-19 Guidelines for Returning to Work along with many members of the Campus Safety Committee and other members of the campus community
- Aerial Lift Training for Physical Plant Staff
- Respirator & Fit Testing for University Police, Physical Plant, Health Services, Facilities, and Environmental Health & Safety Staff

Health Services:

- 121 health education programs
- 5,987 health education contacts
- Worked with 24 on-campus organizations and 26 off-campus departments to provide or support health education programming
- Held annual health fair with 424 attendees
- Held 3 blood drives with 229 donations
- Held two cancer prevention days with 218 contacts

Student Activities:

- “After the Fire” Presentation

Student EMS:

- Provides opportunities for students to volunteer as first responders or Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs).
- Had a total of 31 Emergency Calls, 0 Standbys, and 12 Transports to the hospital by Canton Rescue.

University Police:

- University Police presented the following educational programs with the goal of increasing safety awareness and a positive learning environment:
 - Personal Safety/Basic Crime Prevention and Tips
 - Domestic Violence/Dating Violence
 - Alcohol/Drug Abuse Awareness
 - Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.)

- Healthy Relationships
- The Naked Truth (Sexual Health)
- Can I Kiss You (Practical skills for addressing consent)
- University Police Escort
- Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention
- Safer Sex Programs
- Campus Security Authority Training
- Drug Identification and Awareness
- Quality of Life Issues on Campus
- ABC's of the ABC Law
- Personal Protection During a Crisis
- Ride-Along Program
- University Police and SUNY Canton distribute numerous pamphlets to faculty, staff and students to assist them in preventing victimization for specific types of crimes
- Students found in violation of the zero-tolerance policy are required to take an Eight-hour Alcohol/Drug Education Class.