

TO: Dr. Zvi Szafran  
President

FROM: Derek Converse  
Campus Safety Committee Chair

DATE: November 8, 2021

SUBJECT: 2020 – 2021 Annual Campus Safety Committee Report

Attached is the 2020-2021 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  
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## **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

## **2020-2021 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 2020-2021:

1. Derek Converse –Chair, Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator
2. Ran Li – Assistant Professor
3. Sidei Clouden – Student Representative
4. Jeter Diaz – Student Representative
5. John Kennedy – Director of Residence Life
6. Brian Kurish – Lieutenant, University Police
7. William Myers – Associate Professor& Business Dept. Chair , Business & Liberal Arts
8. Shylene Carmona – Student Representative
9. Jamie Sovie – Instructional Support Technician, Science, Health & Criminal Justice

## 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

- [One Committee meetings](#) was 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; [Mental Wellness](#) (1/15/21, 2/1/21, 3/26/21), [Title IX](#) (9/11/20), [Rave Alert](#) (9/10/20, 11/3/20, 2/8/21, 2/3/21), [Winter Storm Warnings](#) (2/15/21), [Extreme Weather Outreach](#) (2/1/21, 8/12/21).
- Members of the Safety Committee conducted RA/RD Fire Safety Training via Zoom due to the pandemic. Unfortunately, due to social distancing requirements, we were unable to include the hands-on fire extinguisher training this year. (8/19/20).
- Members of the Safety Committee with help from the Office of Fire Prevention and Control (OFPC) facilitated Fire Safety Days consisting of conducting fire safety training for 251 residents of the Kennedy Hall suites and a mock dorm room burn demonstration
- [2020 and 2021 Annual Campus Safety Walk-Around](#) was conducted on 2/10/21 at 1 p.m. and attended by 11 faculty, staff and students. (Daytime). Four 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 much like the previous, 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. SUNY Capital Facilities conducted meetings such as the weekly Campus Safety Monitor and biweekly Operations and Maintenance Physical Preparedness meetings throughout the year to keep campuses updated on new guidance, policy and recommendations. This information was disseminated to the campus ERRG (Emergency Response Resource Group) and the VPG (Vice-Presidents Group) in dealing with campus's pandemic response as a campus.

Although there were many challenges, the campus was able to make informed decisions and quickly deal with those challenges. 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 2021, the campus community worked very hard to prepare for students to return to an in-class experience where feasible in a safe and responsible manner. Environmental Health and Safety, Information Technology and the Davis Health Center implemented the SUNY student Vaccination Verification Solution providing valuable real time student vaccination data to the campus as well as SUNY.

## **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 with a dotted line reporting structure to Student Affairs. We are still in the process of training two Deputy Title IX Coordinators, Julian Shaw and Nico Auguste this continues to be slowed because of Covid-19. Compliance training is completed in house on Blackboard and pushed out to the campus by Megan Hazen. Due to Covid-19 all Title IX training was completed via Zoom or Teams for 2020-2021 and 2021-2022.

## **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 2020-2021 academic year that addressed safety and health issues.

### **Counseling:**

- Provided 1,866 counseling sessions
- Responded to 155 wellness checks with 33 being crisis interventions
- Created the Quarantine Buddy Program to reach out to students placed in quarantine or isolation and contacted 148 students multiple times during their week of quarantine
- Presented/co-sponsored educational programs this year with topics that included Law Enforcement Day with Criminal Justice Program on Cyber Security, EOP Student and Staff Training, Meet and Greet the One Stop Hop Show, Jump Start Mentors, training for athletic coaches on mental health and LYEP student training and introduction of services.
- Food Pantry items were given to students who were in need. Food items, coats, hats, and mittens were the most requested. Over 240 students were given bags of food and supplies.
- Worked with 206 students for alcohol and other drug violations and conduct issues

**Diversity:**

- Safety & Security Workshop for Associated Colleges
- March for Social Justice in collaboration with the Student Activities Board
- Combatting Racism Discussion with Residence Life and Dean of Students
- Various Student and Employee Open Forums
- Holocaust Remembrance Week in collaboration with the CAB and Dr. Szafran

**Facilities:**

- Repaving and lighting improvements to Burma Road
- Reconstruction of Miller Drive to include improvements to lighting, pavement and sidewalks
- Reconstruction of Parking Lot No. 1 to include improvements to lighting and pavement
- Site improvements to French Hall and Roselle Plaza to include improvements in walkways, granite retaining walls and lighting
- Site improvements to Dana Hall to include walkways and HVAC
- Jobsite Ergonomics Program to assess various jobs on campus and sure equipment determined to be beneficial to the campus
- Purchased three Electrostatic Spraying Systems, increased HVAC filters to a rating of MRV13 and increased disinfecting frequency to assist in disinfection campus spaces due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Health & Safety:**

- Assisted with development of COVID-19 the Fall 2021 Guidelines for Returning to Work along with many members of the Campus Safety Committee and other members of the campus community
- In partnership with SUNY Canton Information Technology and the Davis Health Center, implemented the SUNY student Vaccination Verification Solution providing valuable real time student vaccination data to the campus as well as SUNY.
- Conducted wastewater sampling of the five residence halls for COVID-19 from September to December of 2020
- 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:**

- Conducted contact tracing for over 400 students
- Formed a collaboration with Kinney Drugs to provide flu clinics on campus and conducted 3 flu clinics
- Provided Pet Therapy and Gratitude Videos and had 3,406 views
- 64 health education programs
- 2,263 health education contacts
- Worked with 15 on-campus organizations and 4 off-campus departments to provide or support health education programming
- Held 3 blood drives with 157 donations

**Student Activities:**

- Grocery/Stress-Free Bingo Nights

**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
- Orientation – Provided for Students and Parents
- 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
- Drinking and Driving – Beer Goggles
- 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.