

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 10, 2020
CAMPUS & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

VIRTUAL MEETING
BOARD OF REGENTS OFFICE
URBANDALE, IOWA

NOVEMBER 10, 2020
11:30 a.m.*

Committee Members in Attendance

Jim Lindenmayer (Chair)
Zackery Leist (Co-Chair)
Sarah Hansen (SUI VPSL)
Toyia Younger (ISU VPSA)
Paula Knudson (UNI VPSA)
Jason Pontius (BOR)

Others in Attendance:

Regents Richards, Dunkel, Barker, Bates, Dakovich, and Cownie, President Winterstein and Nook, Mark Braun, Rod Lehnertz

Agenda Items

Chair Lindenmayer called meeting to order at 11:30 am

1. Minutes of September 17, 2020 CSA Committee Meeting
Approved by general consent
2. Clery Act Reports (Haire, Newton, Beckner)

Helen Haire: The Department of Education pushed the deadline for the Clery Reports back due to COVID-19. Issue of Title IX policies had not yet been finalized by December 31st of this. UNI reports will be out in about 1 week. 2019 numbers are tracking pretty consistently. Some increase in sexual assault categories and students being more comfortable reporting incidents. I also want to highlight the Purple Couch series as a chance to talk about current issues.

Chief Newton: We were lucky enough that we got our report done for this year on time. We always receive questions about Clery numbers not matching the State crime statistics. This is because they use different data definitions. Some items are not reported to police but to CSAs. We have seen a decrease in crime statistics this year. Focus on rape and fondling. With the Me Too movement, there was a spike in reports in 2018 and it went down in 2019. We will be specifically down. Hired a full time mental health support staff and a therapy dog. We have about a dozen officers who are working with that unit. We won an award for institutional

policing. Several schools have come to our campus to learn about our program (e.g. Indiana University, Harvard).

Regent Barker: Burglary numbers really jumped in 2018 and dropped but was still high.

Chief Newton: Some were resident hall rooms, but most of it was due to thefts in storage containers that we have to report as burglary.

Chief Beckner: Our statistics are not in yet. We had a clarifying question to the USDE. Our sexual assault, domestic violence, and fondling are down. Burglaries are down. Alcohol related incidents are about the same. Stalking is significantly up, almost double. Students would like more transparency in wake of George Floyd. The police are now posting 3 years of police use of force statistics. They also use many student helpers. I am retiring on December 31 but we have a good staff.

Regent Lindenmayer: Why the increase in stalking?

Chief Beckner: I think it's due to better education and communication as well as the increased use of student staff.

Regent Barker: Can you talk about the vandalism issues at Kinnick and Old state house?

Chief Beckner: We now arrest people who vandalize the sites. The first time the area still wasn't fixed so there were no arrests. Now that it's fixed, they are making sure it won't happen again. This is a permanent change in policy.

Rod Lehnertz: Personal safety is always the most paramount. If arresting vandalism impacts personal safety, personal safety will come first.

Regent Lindenmayer: General question. Issue of mental health during COVID. What have you seen and what measures have you taken?

Chief Haire: Our number of requests for welfare checks doubled every week this semester. Have counselors on call 24/7 and work closely with their counseling center. We are very much aware of the stresses that students are under. We have also received calls for employees. Several officers have undergone additional training as well as the new state training. Increase in suicide ideation and attempts.

Paula Knudson: We do have a walk in center in the bookstore that is used frequently. We still offer in-person counseling as an option. 75% of students prefer the in-person counseling.

Chief Newton: We are seeing the same. Students are craving engagement and they are not getting human interaction. Students are craving the interaction and chance to meet with one another. Our therapy dog is very popular with the student. Mental health resources are important and need more resources.

Chief Beckner: We are seeing the same. All of our officers are trained in crisis manage and mental health issues from all over the county.

Regent Bates: Thank you to Chiefs Haire, Beckner, and Newton. Who is helping the helpers? Who is providing support for officers and for staff?

Chief Newton: We are trying to normalize that it's okay to seek out help. They need to be able to express how they are feeling and make sure they get help.

Chief Haire: We do a lot of peer to peer support. It's mandatory when an officer is involved in an incident. EAP is good, but sometimes you need someone who understands policing.

Regent Lindenmayer. I feel really fortunate to have the three of you looking over our students.

After the presentation, Regent Lindenmayer asked if there were any questions or comments:

Chair Lindenmayer adjourned the meeting order at 12:00 am

****Time is Approximate***