

Stony Brook University
University Senate
Campus Environment Committee
August 27, 2007
Room 126 Psychology B Building
1:00 – 2:30 pm

Attending: Gil Hanson, Chair; Ramona Walls, Recording Secretary; Robert Aller, Bill Dethlefs, Mary Hotaling, Nick Koridis, Kristen Nyitray, John Robinson, Paul Siegel, Fred Walter, Kathleen Weber.

Excused: Mary LaCorte, Vice-chair; Malcolm Bowman, Ketty Dautruche, Wendy Fidaio, Catherine Horgan, Gary Kaczmarczyk, Matthew Maiorella, John Murray, Dorothy Shannon Schiff, Ana Topolovec, Catherine Vetter and Muriel Weyl.

Staff: Amy Provenzano

Minutes

- I. Introductions – G. Hanson
Introductions were made of all attendees.

- II. Review of the Minutes – R. Walls
June minutes were approved.

- III. Status Reports
 1. Effluent from county sewage treatment plant, environmental master plan and developments at Southampton campus – Discussion of these issues was post-posed because B. Chernow was not present.

 2. Campus sustainability task force and Recycling on campus– A. Provenzano
 - Paper, bottle and can recycling are now in place at Manhattan campus.
 - The red special event signs on campus now display public service announcements on sustainability when there are no events. There are about 30 different signs on rotating display.
 - Stony Brook was a spotlight campus of the AASHE (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education – AASHE.org).
 - The task force has been receiving a lot of comments on the low-flow and waterless urinals in Marine Sciences. They are waiting for students to return to get additional input. There are problems with the physical design of the waterless urinal, but not the smell.
 - M. O’Leary sent email about bottle and can recycling in HSC food service locations. The refuse containers had to be reconfigured, at a cost of about \$600. A. Provenzano’s office paid for the reconfiguration (but found out later that they did not).
 - The sustainability task force will have a table at the resident assistants’ resource fair today. Recycling is now in every dorm. They remade the video for new students and faculty. It is available on the Recycling and Resource Management web site.
 - The first intern just finished. They hope to have 2 each semester. Preference is for students who will work for credit.

-R. Aller suggested that the task force encourage people to use the water fountains rather than drink bottled water. He forwarded a copy of an article on contamination in bottled water.

-P. Siegel suggested that the campus eliminate the use of plastics other than numbers 1 and 2, since these are the only ones that are currently recycled. A. Provenzano mentioned that CO&M had recently serviced all drinking fountains on Campus. R. Walls asked for one in Life Science to be re-looked at.

3. University Safety Committee – M. Hotaling, G. Hanson

The committee has not yet had a meeting. G. Hanson made a call to George Meyer and is waiting for a response. The committee may not be functioning, so it is important to get it functioning again. B. Dethlefs was on a similar task force with Doug Little (University Police) regarding evacuation in the event of terror, weather, chemical spills, etc. It addressed some of the same issues as the critical incident management task force (see below).

IV. New Business

1. Critical Incident Management (CIM) – A. Provenzano and All

G. Hanson forwarded the CEC a memo from Senate President Bernie Lane regarding a recent SUNY-wide task force on CIM, as well as a link to the report from the chancellor's task force. The role of the CEC is to oversee the administration's efforts on CIM. G. Hanson asked if this committee wants to get involved in CIM and asked A. Provenzano to outline what is happening on this campus and what we might contribute.

A. Provenzano provided background. The CIM task force was set up in response to the Virginia Tech shootings. It produced a report. This campus' administration has been assigning recommendations to different areas. For example, Peter Baigent's office (Dean of Student Affairs) is responsible for mental health response. The campus is already in great shape for mental health response, with the existence of the Behavioral Assessment Committee. This committee responds to referrals from faculty and is just for student mental health issues. B. Dethlefs said that we need a way to respond to faculty/staff mental health issues. A. Provenzano said that someone is looking at that issue. All campus police attended active shooter (which is different than hostage) training.

P. Siegel asked how faculty would be notified of an emergency situation if they were in class. For example, someone might be teaching an evening class and be showing a movie, making it difficult to know what is going on outside. A. Provenzano said they are looking at systems such as sirens or the NY Alert System that uses automatic emails and cell-phone calls. P. Siegel suggested using spoken messages in the fire alarms. A. Provenzano said they are testing that idea. K. Nyitray asked if there were security checkpoints on campus. A. Provenzano said no, except for some special events. N. Koridis asked about card access. Someone asked if Dr. Edward Feldman was part of this campus' task force. A. Provenzano re-iterated that there is not one specific person that has been given the responsibility to implement the CIM, but that different people are working on different issues related to CIM. A group of people meets bi-weekly to discuss issues. G. Hanson asked if any one person was in charge of CIM on this campus. A. Provenzano said that many people are working on it, but ultimately (University President) Dr. Kenny is in charge.

J. Robins asked if the counseling center was involved in CIM. (Yes they are). In the Psychology Department, about 1% of the students have serious distress. They have good interactions with the counseling center. Now there is a 1:1500 counselor to student ratio, and this may need to be increased. Often the counseling center is busy, and students can't get help when they need it. It is important that the counseling center have the resources they need and that they interact with faculty. Most problems occur near the end of the semester, when students are under extra stress. They may have to wait up to 3 hours for admission to the counseling center (?) B. Dethlefs asked if anyone from East Campus was involved in CIM. He suggested that working in the emergency room could do assessment, etc. A. Provenzano said that campus uses the ER after hours when the counseling center is closed. ER can also get very busy. B. Dethlefs asked if the county had a psychological assessment team. J. Robins said that Suffolk County does have one, but there is a delay in getting them to the campus. P. Siegel asked if this campus has ever had a threatening situation. A. Provenzano knew of one incident where a patient in the hospital had a gone, but otherwise, no. G. Hanson commented that based on J. Robin's information, many people may be close to the point of a threat. P. Siegel expressed concern that generally faculty are not qualified to assess the mental health of their students. G. Hanson suggested that it might be necessary to train directors to assess this, who can in turn train faculty.

G. Hanson asked A. Provenzano what role this committee should have in CIM. A. Provenzano was unclear if CIM was consistent with the charge of this committee. M. Hotaling was concerned that the campus Safety and Security committee is not functioning. F. Walter suggested that if the safety and security committee is not functioning, perhaps the University Senate should form another standing committee. G. Hanson was concerned that the CEC already has many other charges, and that CIM could end up taking the majority of our time. R. Aller said that it was a large enough issue to require a separate standing committee, but perhaps there could be a liaison member from this committee. F. Walter was also concerned that safety and security required different expertise than the members of this committee have. There was general agreement that the CEC should not take on CIM as part of its charge. G. Hanson will talk to B. Lane about it. F. Walter suggested that B. Chernow either get the campus safety and security committee to meet or from a new committee. A. Provenzano will talk to George Meyer about it.

R. Aller asked if there was a fail-safe built into the communication systems to prevent someone from hacking in and sending false alarms. A. Provenzano said that NY Alert is verified at the state level, but Rich Reeder (Dept. of Information Technology) will have to deal with it here. R. Aller suggested giving people a place to call to check if an alert is real. A. Provenzano will try to institute this.

2. What items should be of major concern to committee for the coming year – All

R. Walls suggested that parking and transportation should be one of the issues we tackle, in light of the recently formed sub-committee.

J. Robins suggested that Stony Brook University should be a leader in developing a regional master plan, since it is the area's largest employer and has plans for significant growth. This plan would address the university's impact on the broader community, and would be prepared in coordination with other entities in the area. The CEC could spend some time figuring out the details of what the plan should include, but not define the parameters yet. Transportation would

be one of the key issues. F. Walter said that this endeavor could turn into anything, but is a good idea. R. Aller asked how this would be different from what Lee Koppleman Poly Sci Faculty, LI regional planning committee (*who is?*) has done over the years. J. Robins said that the university should be a leader in this, rather than just an advisor, and should work actively to mitigate our impacts on the environment. G. Hanson and J. Robins suggested that this committee would produce suggestions on how to implement the development of a master plan. It should be progressive. The deliverable from the CEC would be a recommendation to the senate.

F. Walter suggested that we work on extending bike paths and sidewalks on and off campus. This could interface with the master plan.

3. Other

-P. Siegel asked if there was any news on the proposed hotel. A. Provenzano said there was none.

-P. Siegel asked what was happening outside Stage 12 (*where is this?*) Roosevelt quad. A. Provenzano said a 600-bed dorm is under construction.

-R. Aller said that we should stay focused on the campus environmental plan, and not let it fall by the wayside.

-G. Hanson asked if B. Chernow would be meeting with us less, given her new position. A. Provenzano said probably not.

-P. Siegel commented that the light by the north campus entrance was not working last week. He called public safety (campus police), who said they had called Suffolk County but the county was not responding. The light was eventually fixed after a call to the president's office.

V. Subcommittee Reports

1. Smoking – B. Dethlefs

Since our last meeting, a new state regulation puts a 20 ft. no smoking radius around all dorms. This means that now there are three different rules on campus (15 ft. all main campus buildings, 50 ft. HSC and 20 ft. dorms). Ideally, we should have one standard. HSC is trying to clearly demarcate the no smoking perimeters. They should be in place by the end of August. There are still issues of signage and enforcement on campus.

The subcommittee now has about 17 people involved. They are working on education, awareness and feedback. Gary Kaczmarczyk is the point person for enforcement. A. Provenzano pointed out that G. Kaczmarczyk couldn't set policy, only enforce it. The president sets policy. B. Dethlefs reminded us that prior to the formation of the previous subcommittee, B. Chernow was hesitant to install signs on campus until a policy was agreed upon.

G. Hanson asked if we could make a 50 ft. no-smoking radius everywhere on campus. This is the only way we could have on consistent policy. M. Hotaling asked in the current policy said 15 ft. or 15 ft. minimum. B. Dethlefs said that is 15 ft., and that campus residences are posted as 20 ft. N. Koridis suggested that the radius should be 20 ft. throughout campus, to be consistent with the dorms. P. Siegel favored 50 feet as a standard, because this would better prevent people from coming in contact with second hand smoke. F. Walter said that the perimeter should be around entire buildings, not just entrances, because smoke can blow in open windows or air intake vents.

R. Aller mentioned that we had problems of student resistance to the former policy proposal (a smoking ban). R. Walls pointed out that the new sub-committee is supposed to address a new policy. F. Walter said that the problem with the old suggested policy was that it was too absolute. P. Siegel (and others) asked about this committee's original idea to have designated smoking areas on campus.

G. Hanson suggested that the CEC or the sub-committee should meet with G. Kaczmarczyk, who is an ex-officio member of the CEC. B. Dethlefs will call a meeting of the sub-committee before the next CEC meeting, so they can recommend a single perimeter throughout campus. G. Hanson said we would then consider that recommendation at our next meeting, and ask G. Kaczmarczyk to attend,

2. Friends of Ashley Schiff – No report.

VI. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be September 20, 2007, at 1:00 PM, in the VP Administration Conference Room. Note: this is a change from Monday afternoon to Thursday afternoon.

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

2006/2007

Charge: It shall examine all aspects of the campus environment, including but not limited to safety, security, facilities planning, state of facilities, and general appearance of the campus. It will consult with and advise the Assistant Vice President for Facilities and Services.

Chair: Gilbert N. Hanson, Vice Chair: Mary Woodward, Recording Secretary: Ramona Walls

Humanities and Fine Arts:

Vacant			
Vacant			

Social and Behavioral Sciences:

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Vacant			

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Frederick Walter	Physics, 2-8232	fwalter@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/09

Library:

Kristen Nyitray	Library, 2-7119	KNyitray@notes.cc.sunysb.edu	9/08
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Paul Siegel	Tech. & Society, 2-8716	psiegel@sunysb.edu	9/08

Health Sciences Center:

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Graduate Student:

Ramona Walls		rwalls@life.bio.sunysb.edu	9/07
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Matthew Maiorella		mmaiorel@ic.sunysb.edu	9/07

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
2006/2007

At-Large Members:

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Muriel Weyl, (retired faculty), murielweyl@yahoo.com

Bob Aller, MSRC, raller@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, 2-8746

Ex officio members: Gary Kaczmarczyk, Director of Environmental Health & Safety

Administrative Contact:

Barbara Chernow, AVP Facilities and Services & Richard Mann, VP Administration

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