

TO: Dr. Zvi Szafran  
President

FROM: Derek Converse  
Campus Safety Committee Chair

DATE: October 20, 2023

SUBJECT: 2022 – 2023 Annual Campus Safety Committee Report

Attached is the 2022-2023 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 various 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

## **2022-2023 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 on an annual basis and appointments are made accordingly. Safety Committee membership for 2022-2023 was the following:

1. Derek Converse –Chair, Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator
2. Debora Bartosova – Student Representative
3. Katherine DeThomas – Student Representative
4. Jacenia Manning- Student Representative
5. John Kennedy – Director of Residence Life
6. Tammy LaPage-Avery – University Police Officer 1

7. William Myers – Associate Professor& Business Dept. Chair, Business & Liberal Arts
8. Jamie Sovie – Instructional Support Technician, Science, Health & Criminal Justice
9. Nichole Heldt, Professor, Science, Health & Criminal Justice

**Ex Officio Members**

1. Martin Avery – Physical Plant Superintendent
2. Brad Winters – Inventory and Maintenance Manager, College Association
3. Michael McCormick – Executive Director of Facilities
4. James Sheppard – Counselor
5. Tim Ashley – Chief of University Police
6. Tina Flanagan – Benefits Coordinator
7. Julie Cruickshank – Associate Director of Health Services
8. Brett Furnia – Plant Utilities Engineer I, CSEA Representative

**SUNY CANTON SAFETY COMMITTEE ACTIVITY SUMMARY**

- Two Committee meetings were conducted during the 2022-2023 academic year and the Campus Safety Committee web page was updated regularly as needed.
- Reviewed mandatory compliance reporting for the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Statistics Act and Title IX policies and reporting procedures.
- Received and responded to five submissions to Report a Health and Safety Hazard on Campus (8/29/22, 9/11/22, 3/6/23, 3/7/23, 3/8/23)
- More than 30 campus-wide email and text message notices were sent out on health and safety issues, including: Mental Wellness (10/18/22, 3/27/23, 3/29/23, 4/20/23, 4/28/23, 5/2/23), Physical Wellness (10/3/22, 3/21/23, 3/27/23, 6/8/23), Blood Drives (9/14/22, 9/26/22, 4/13/23), Vaccination Clinics (9/12/22, 9/22/22, 10/3/22, 10/11/22, 10/25/22, 11/4/22), Title IX (8/31/22), Rave Alert (9/1/22, 1/25/23, 2/16/23, 2/22/23, 9/6/23, 9/18/23, 9/21/23) and Winter Storm Warnings (12/22/22/, 2/22/23) and Air Quality Advisory (6/29/23).
- Members of the Safety Committee conducted RA/RD Fire Safety Training for 23 RA/RDs to include hands-on fire extinguisher training at the beginning of the fall semester on 8/16/22.
- 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 134 residents of the Kennedy Hall suites on 9/19/22 and 9/20/22 culminating with a mock dorm room burn demonstration on 9/20/22.
- A Fall Annual Campus Safety Walk-Arounds was conducted on 12/5/22 at 4:00 pm attended by 10 faculty, staff and students. Two new issues/areas of concern were identified, addressed, and followed up on.

- Review and revised sections in the College's Policies and Procedures Manual and the Student Handbook.

## **COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Due to the COVID pandemic, participation in student clubs, organizations, and leadership involvement declined significantly; it has been increasing steadily over the past couple of years and truly accelerated in the 2022-2023 academic year; there is still a way to go to reach the levels of pre-pandemic, we believe continued work and improvements will yield even more engagement.

## **TITLE IX**

At the beginning of the Fall 2022 semester, Nicodeme Auguste assumed the role of Title IX coordinator, succeeding Amanda. Employee compliance training was conducted through Brightspace and made available online for campus-wide completion. In-person training sessions were conducted for various student groups, including Athletic, EOP, Resident Assistants, Greek organizations, and more.

## **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 2022-2023 academic year that addressed safety and health issues.

### **Counseling:**

- Personal Counseling logged 1,943 sessions
- Responded to 22 crisis interventions
- 95 sessions through tele counseling
- Presented or co-sponsored 139 educational and stress reducing programs. The programs included:
  - Fresh Check Day
  - Mocktails and Game Night (Alcohol Awareness)
  - Monthly Wellness Guides
  - Stress reduction projects
  - Stress and Relaxation Before Finals Day
- Additional Resources Provided By SUNY
  - SUNY Crisis Text Line
  - Middle Earth Peer to Peer Assistance Hotline
  - QPR training
  - Tele health psychiatric services
  - Resources on services for LGBTQIA
- Renzi Food Pantry
  - 147 requests filled for food supplies given out to students in need

## **Diversity and New Student Orientation**

- Diversity, Equity Book Collection Collaborated with the Learning Commons
- Coming Out Table
- Splash of Culture -Hispanic Heritage Month
- Taste of Culture-Indigenous Peoples Month
- Native American Traveling College Performance
- Movie Discussion- “Till”
- Black History Month Programming -Malik Dope Drummer
- Mental Health Awareness Programming – “I’m Not OK”, collaborated with Counseling Center

#### **Facilities Management:**

- Capital Improvement Construction Projects
  - Improve Accessibility Nevaldine North & South
  - Reconstruct Chaney Dining Hall Parking Lot for Accessibility
  - Restore Exterior Facade to Wicks Hall
  - Site improvements to French Hall and Roselle Plaza to include improvements in walkways, granite retaining walls and lighting
- Minor Critical Maintenance Projects
  - CARC - Repair Swimming Pool Plaster
  - CARC - Replace Exhaust Fan Swimming Pool Mechanical Room to Increase Ventilation
  - CARC - Replace Ice Arena Lighting
  - CARC - Replace Unit Heaters Fire Pump Room, Zamboni Room and Ice Shed
  - Cook Hall - Replace Elevator Jack Cylinder
  - Miller Campus Center - Replace Elevator Oil Valve, Add Soft Start
  - Miller Camus Center - Replace Main Entrance Soffit
  - Nevaldine South - Update Building Card Access Control System
  - Newell - Replace Lighting and Controls, Emergency Lighting and Emergency Exit Lighting
  - Wicks Hall - Replace CRAC Unit
  - Wicks Hall - Exterior Façade Restoration
  - Chaney Dining Hall - Rehab Dining Room Emergency Egress for ADA
- Civil Rights Compliance Review
- OSHA 10-hour Training for Physical Plant Staff
- 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:**

- Provided care during over 2,200 students visits to the Health Center
  - Of the 2,200+ visits held, 122 were telehealth visits

#### **Student Activities:**

- Welcome Weekend
- Family/Homecoming Weekend
- Spring fest
- Open Houses
- Admitted Student Day Events

### **University Police:**

- University Police presented the following educational programs with the goal of increasing safety awareness and a positive learning environment:
  - Operation ID
  - Personal Safety/Basic Crime Prevention and Tips
  - Domestic Violence/Dating Violence
  - ABC's of the ABC Law
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  - Orientation – overview of the University Police function and general campus regulations
  - Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention
  - Quality of Life Issues On and Off Campus
  - Drug Identification and Awareness
  - Quality of Life Issues on Campus
  - Drinking and Driving – Beer Goggles
  - Alcohol/Drug Abuse Awareness
  - Campus Security Authority Training
  - Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE)
  - Opiate Awareness Training
  - 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.

### **Wellness Promotions:**

- Programs
  - 89 health education programs offered
  - 2,975 direct health education contacts
  - 1,243 indirect virtual health education contacts
  - 17,826 (8520) sexual health products distributed
  - 1 Step Forward, a virtual violence prevention awareness program (in collaboration with Counseling Center): 74 participants (new program).
  - Fresh Check Day, an uplifting mental health and suicide prevention event, (in collaboration with Counseling Center): 82 (107) in-person and 53 (91) virtually
  - Blood Drives: 3 (3) on-campus with 150 (114) donations and 2 (2) virtual with 9 (13) donations
  - Collaborated with Counseling Center to offer same evaluations to increase data
  - 99% of respondents at wellbeing programs found the program informative
  - Fresh Check Day evaluations indicated 88% of respondents felt more prepared to help a friend who is exhibiting warning signs of suicide or mental health concerns and 85% were more likely to ask for help if experiencing emotional distress.
  - 392 student evaluations completed