SUNY Geneseo Personal Safety Committee 2010-2011 Annual Report



Committee Members: Elizabeth Adolf, Kerrie Bondi, Tabitha Buggie-Hunt, Thomas Buneo, Kelly Davis, Robert Dill, Paul Dotterweich, Karen Duerr-Clark, Sandra Glantz, Joseph Matina, Andre McDuffie, Dave Norton, Faroog Sheikh, Sal Simonetti, Phara Souffant, Kathleen Trainor, Kelli Zydel

The Committee was charged by President Dahl to:

- 1. conduct an audit of the location, use, and effectiveness of all surveillance cameras used for the recording and monitoring of public areas for non-instructional purposes and disseminate results of that audit to the College community
- 2. assess the effectiveness of signs at crosswalks in relation to pedestrian safety and investigate the need to erect signs that read "Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalk"
- 3. coordinate the annual campus safety walk, and prepare a report on the walk

Charge #1: Conduct an audit of the location, use, and effectiveness of all surveillance cameras used for the recording and monitoring of public areas for non-instructional purposes and disseminate results of that audit to the College community.

This charge is an annual requirement of the SUNY Geneseo Security Camera Policy #1-010 and covers academic year 2010-2011 year. This policy may be accessed at:

http://www.geneseo.edu/~policies/policies/Security%20Camera%20Policy%201-010.pdf

A sub-committee was formed to carry out the mission of this charge. Sub-committee members included: Kerrie Bondi, Kelly Davis, Paul Dotterweich, Sandra Glantz, Andre McDuffie, Dave Norton, and Farooq Sheikh. Sandra Glantz volunteered as sub-committee chair. The group met in February, 2011 to plan the audit.

Sub-committee members were assigned specific campus buildings to investigate regarding the existence and use of surveillance cameras as stated above. University Police Chief Sal Simonetti had previously provided committee members with specific information about the location of surveillance cameras on campus that the University Police Department was aware of. Chief Simonetti requested the sub-committee attempt to obtain more details on the purpose of each camera and to learn who manages the equipment. To further assist in this effort, sub-committee members reviewed previously submitted Personal Safety Committee reports.

*Note: As indicated in the SUNY Geneseo Security Camera Policy #1-010, Automated Teller Machines (ATM's) are noted in this report for informational purposes only. ATM cameras are not part of the annual audit as theses devices are owned by banking institutions.

AUDIT RESULTS for 2010-2011:

As a result of this audit, the following SUNY Geneseo buildings are known to have surveillance cameras used for non-instructional purposes:

- Erwin Hall
- Fraser Hall
- Integrated Science Center
- Lauderdale Health Center
- MacVittie College Union
- Mary Jemison Dining Hall
- South Hall

The following constitutes a complete list of all campus buildings checked and also includes committee member comments and/or noteworthy quotations received from faculty and staff during the investigatory process.

UPPER CAMPUS

Integrated Science Center

Chemistry Dept. – Presently there is no camera. However, a camera purchase is under consideration for security of the NMR machine.

Room 127, Physics Dept – Response from Charlie Freeman:

"There are 9 cameras in use in the lab. We use them to monitor things in the lab, like the ion source and other gauges. So, I guess this would be partly instructional. The student accelerator operators need to monitor these cameras while running. They are also used for safety. The accelerator operators need to know that the experimental areas are clear sometimes while running the machine."

Bailey Hall – none identified (closed for renovation)

Brodie Hall – none identified

Newton Hall - none identified

Milne Library – Four surveillance cameras are present but not currently in use.

Blake Hall - none identified

CAS office staff report that using surveillance cameras is under consideration for the dining halls to deter student theft.

Erwin Hall

Room 205B, Provost – Response from Karie Frisaris:

"We do have a web cam in our office. It's located in Jennifer Glieco's office-directly behind where I sit. I believe that the Communications and Publications office is in charge of it." http://webcam.geneseo.edu/

Wadsworth Auditorium – none identified
Welles Hall – none identified

Sturges Hall - none identified

Fraser Hall

Fraser Library: Four surveillance cameras are present but not currently in use.

South Hall

EXTERIOR – South side of building exterior – Response from Bill Meyers (CIT):

"Strictly speaking, this is not a surveillance camera. Nothing is recorded from this camera. It was set up originally as part of Commencement prep, when the ceremonies were outdoors in B lot. Now it is just used as a video input for testing purposes."

LOWER CAMPUS

MacVittie College Union

EXTERIOR – ATM camera on west side of building Room 111 – Federal Credit Union has 3 security cameras

Heating Plant – none identified

Clark Service Buildings – none identified

Schrader Sports & Recreation Building – none identified

Merritt Athletic Center – none identified

Holcomb Building – none identified

NORTH VILLAGE RESIDENCE HALLS

Lauderdale Health Center

EXTERIOR - One camera is located on the roof of the portico over the north entrance. This camera is not currently in use.

Steuben Hall – none identified

Jones Hall - none identified

Erie Hall – none identified

Ontario Hall- none identified

Genesee Hall - none identified

Letchworth Dining Hall - none identified

Wyoming Hall - none identified

Putnam Hall - none identified

Allegany Hall - none identified

Livingston Hall – none identified

Monroe Hall - none identified

Mary Jemison Dining Hall

EXTERIOR – ATM machine camera on south side of building.

Seneca Hall – none identified

SOUTH VILLAGE

Saratoga Terrace – none identified **Saratoga Commons** – none identified

Onondaga Hall – none identified

Niagara Hall - none identified

Red Jacket Dining Hall – none identified

Wayne Hall – none identified

Nassau Hall – none identified

Suffolk Hall – none identified

Saratoga Heating Plant – none identified

MAIN STREET / UPTOWN

President's Residence – none identified **Roemer House** – none identified

Charge #2: Assess the effectiveness of signs at crosswalks in relation to pedestrian safety and investigate the need to erect signs that read "Yield to Pedestrians in Crosswalk"

A sub-committee was formed to carry out the mission of this charge. Sub-committee members included: Tabitha Buggie-Hunt, Tom Buneo, Robert Dill, Karen Duerr-Clark, Joseph Matina, Phara Souffant, Kathleen Trainor, and Kelli Zydel. Karen Duerr-Clark volunteered to serve as sub-committee chair. The following represents the Pedestrian Safety sub-committee's report.

1. Crosswalks – there are an adequate number of crosswalks on campus; they appear to be in proper locations.

2. Major Concerns

- a. General many people fail to look before crossing the street if they are crossing in a crosswalk. While vehicles are required to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks, it is dangerous to assume that vehicles both see the pedestrian and have adequate time to stop their vehicle. This has been seen both on campus, often at the crosswalks between Saratoga Terrace and South Hall and between Monroe Hall and the athletic fields, and off campus, especially on Court Street and the Route 63 by-pass.
- b. On-Campus there are a large number of students who cross between Saratoga Terrace and South Hall each day. Considering that there are roughly 1,000 students living in the South Village and Saratoga Terrace, many of whom travel between South Hall and Saratoga Terrace each day for classes and other activities, this is a high traffic crosswalk. More attention needs to be drawn to this cross walk, especially since it is right off the main entrance to the campus, and is often used by visitors who are unfamiliar with the campus. Perhaps "In Cross-Walk" signs, similar to what can be observed on Main Street, Geneseo would be appropriate.
- c. Off-Campus the main off-campus concern is student safety while crossing Court Street and the Route 63 by-pass. Not only are students not always looking, vehicles are often traveling at faster speeds on the by-pass and do not always stop for students who are waiting to cross or currently crossing as long as the student is not directly in the path of vehicle.

3. Solutions

- a. Signs reminding students to exercise safety while crossing the street could be placed on the LATS buses
 - i. Information from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration on Pedestrian Safety would be very useful on these signs, specifically the

"Prescription for Safety - Walking in traffic guide" found at http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/pedbimot/ped/RxFlyer/Rxflyer2.html

- b. Addressing the pedestrians as they approach a crosswalk, either through a "Pedestrians Look Both Ways Sign" or through a similar message painted on the sidewalk could curb the major problem of students failing to look when crossing the street.
- c. The HAWK The High Intensity Activated Cross Walk Pedestrian Beacon, or The HAWK, was something that was discussed, mainly whether or not it is something that should be brought to our campus. An informational video describing The HAWK and its proper usage was viewed at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SEPIHLoXpTs&feature=related Considering that The HAWK is something that is used in conjunction with a traffic light, it does not seem appropriate for our campus, but would be extremely beneficial on the Route 63 by-pass.

Charge #3: Coordinate the annual campus safety walk and prepare a report on the walk.

Several members of the campus community including students, faculty, administrators and staff, participated in the annual campus safety walk which was held on Thursday, October 7, 2010.

University Police Department Assistant Chief Scott Kenney greeted the participants and introduced President Dahl and newly appointed University Police Chief Sal Simonetti to the assembled group. President Dahl welcomed the participants and provided a background on campus safety walks.

After the initial greetings, President Dahl and Assistant Chief Kenney guided participants throughout the North and Main Campus areas. During the walk, President Dahl took this opportunity to point out some of the important initiatives enacted as a result of previous annual safety walks.

As a result of the annual campus safety walk, a number or building, sidewalk and street lights were observed as being out. This information was noted by the Assistant Vice President for Facilities and Planning, George Stooks, so that appropriate repair work orders could be initiated.

Participants also used the safety walk as an opportunity to raise awareness on issues related to handicap accessibility in relation to vehicle parking and pedestrian travel.

END OF REPORT