

CPSC Attending:

Cody Graham
Clint Culpepper
Marcy Hunt- Co-chair
Amy Donaldson
Keith Kaufman
Robert Winthrop (by phone)

Betty Brickson
Willie Halliburton
Heather Randol
Meggie Kirchner
Carmen Suarez- Co-chair

CPSC Absent: CPSC Staff:

Alex Herrera
Cathy Kirchner
Mark Wubbold

Campus Public Safety Committee (CPSC) - March 17, 2017

Convened: 1:05 pm

Topic: Welcome and announcements.

Announcement: Leia Hertel has accepted another position and will be leaving PSU. There is no plan to replace her on the CPSC at this time.

Topic: Review of meeting notes from 2/17/17 meeting

Action: The meeting notes were approved without revision and are ready for posting to the website.

Topic: Access Control

Discussion: This topic continues from the last meeting where it was agreed the CPSC would review the specifics of safety and security through the use of access control; in particular, when buildings should be opened or closed and other related matters. Discussion began with the library.

The committee wishes to balance access with safety in the library. As one of the most “public” buildings on campus -- and at the center of the academic enterprise -- the library has always been a challenging space to manage. Committee members had questions.

Q. What are the current criteria for when the library and other campus buildings are opened or closed?

Q. What do we know about how the general public uses the library?

Q. Should all library users have to check in at a main desk, as is the case with some university libraries researched by Emma Stocker in FADM?

The behavior of some library users is problematic. For example, even though the library uses access control after a certain time, public members are known to enter the library just before it is secured through access cards and “plant” themselves in the facility, making it difficult for library personnel to move them out. There is concern this creates safety issues for PSU students in the library.

There are also structural safety issues with the library. For example, except for some of the computer labs, there is no check-in desk. Also, although there may be rules and policies intended to secure the library, because they are largely enforced by work-study students with little or no authority, enforcement is difficult. By comparison, the Multnomah County Library is patrolled full time by security personnel.

Chief Zerzan is experimenting with assigning an officer to patrol the library in the hours between 8pm and closing when it is supposed to be open only to those with PSU IDs. Officers will be checking IDs and excluding those without them, securing the library for PSU students.

Chair Marcy Hunt reported on an internet search she did to review what other universities might be doing relative to building access. She reported that at some schools, building open access and controlled access times were determined by category. For example: academic/classroom buildings, event and related facilities, residential life housing, administration, student centers, etc.

Q. Should PSU have a campus-wide access control policy?

Action: Staff to retrieve a copy of the access control policy that was begun some years ago, but never completed.

Topic: Safety in other campus buildings.

Besides the library, two other buildings were discussed by CPSC members with safety concerns: the Smith Student Union and the Broadway Building. Smith is a concern because it stays open so late, is a popular venue for community members as well as student activities, and has no dedicated security presence. The Broadway is a concern because it is a hybrid facility, with computer labs and classes, as well as full time student residents.

If an access policy were to be developed for Smith, CPSC members want to make sure the unique characteristics of Smith's use and its importance to the PSU community are taken into consideration. In order to better understand *exactly* how this facility is used, the committee would like to see a space use analysis of Smith.

Action: Staff to obtain a space use report for the Smith Student Union.

Use of ID card access control in these buildings could make them more secure, while providing law enforcement with a "paper trail" of users in the event of an incident. In addition to the Library, Smith and Broadway are representative of the tradeoffs the CPSC is being asked to weigh in on. They also bring up the issue of cost in relationship to security. Because access control is paid for largely at the departmental level, those departments with the most resources will be the most secure. This was another reason the committee is interested in exploring an access control policy. Such a policy would require extensive campus community input and review and if adopted would be an expression of campus priorities at the central level. Such a policy would undoubtedly have an impact on budget considerations.

The suggestion was made to close some of the more public buildings like Broadway and Smith earlier, thus encouraging students to move to the Library. The value of this is that it could make the campus more secure by concentrating night-time security efforts in targeted areas (the library) while potentially extending -- and making more secure -- library hours for PSU students.

However, it was pointed out that whatever interventions or policy the CPSC might advocate for or endorse nothing we do is going to make *every* person feel secure *all* of the time. That said, should the CPSC decide to work on an access control policy there are certain criteria they would address in it crafting: 1) the policy should be supported by data; 2) it should help build (rather than discourage) PSU's commitment to community; 3) it should take into consideration how different demographic groups use PSU buildings and most importantly; 4) it should be focused on student needs and success.

Topic: In delineating the fourth element of the policy's criteria, CPSC members noted that the composition of the committee has changed since its inception. With turn over there is some concern that the committee has become too homogenous, and especially that there are not enough students on the committee. Although the co-chairs have been working hard to correct this issue, there is still concern.

Action: The chairs will continue to recruit new faculty, staff and student members with a focus on diversity dimensions and encourages CPSC members to support these efforts for the Fall 2017 term.

Adjourned: 2:35 pm