

UPSOC Attending:

Michael Alexander- Co-chair
Marcy Hunt- Co-chair
Clint Culpepper
Keith Kaufman (by phone)
Thomas Lockett
Jay Auslander
Shirley Jackson
Dana Walton-Macaulay (by phone)
Jill Townley
Anastasia Amsden
Willie Halliburton
Luis Baldera-Villagrana

UPSOC Absent:

Constantin Severe
Andres Guzman

UPSOC Staff:

Cathy Kirchner
Mark Wubbold

Guests:

Donnell Tanksley

University Public Safety Oversight Committee (UPSOC) – April 19, 2019

Convened: 1:01 pm

Topic: Welcome and review of meeting notes

Discussion: UPSOC members approved the March 15, 2019 meeting notes as written.

Action: Staff will post the meeting notes to the UPSOC website.

Topic: Co-Chairs update

Discussion:

- OIR's final report is still not complete. OIR is the contractor handling the review/investigation of the officer involved shooting. So far, they have submitted their scope of work and completed their interviews.
- The Daigel Group is reviewing the death in custody incident that occurred last Thanksgiving.
- The Board has convened an ad hoc committee (four UPSOC members serve on the committee) to review and respond to the Margolis Healy (MH) report. This Board subcommittee has met twice.
- UPSOC plans to review and respond to the oversight recommendations (and other recommendations concerning UPSOC) of the MH report.

- Finance and Administration has created a number of spreadsheets and clustering by administrative unit of the 100+ recommendations in the Margolis Healy report. The key recommendation for UPSOC is for the committee to assume a more comprehensive form of “oversight.” In the absence of a clear definition of oversight, UPSOC members will define this for the Board.
- UPSOC members will need more training if they are going to provide true oversight. Additional training for UPSOC members could include a Citizen’s Academy so they may better understand police work. Members will also need to commit more time to the work of the committee if they are to provide true oversight. A committee member had a question about the composition of a true oversight committee.

Q. Is it appropriate for CPSO officers to serve on the oversight committee?

A. Yes. In addition to providing a necessary perspective on campus safety, CPSO officers can serve as a validity check against ideas that might not be feasible.

Action: Staff to research the composition, authorities and responsibilities of other University oversight committees and provide the committee with a report on how they do their work.

Topic: UPSOC capacity

Discussion: If UPSOC is to provide the level of oversight called for in the MH report, they will need a better understanding of how much work is involved and what resources will be necessary to do the work. We also need a capacity check of UPSOC members, to determine how much work they are willing and able to do.

Oversight would require increased access to information as well as staffing help if UPSOC is to submit written reports when they review use of force situations. It may also be necessary to provide some type of compensation for the additional work, particularly for students and adjuncts. CPSO would provide the use of force data. However, UPSOC may need the expertise of a criminologist or sociologist to do the necessary data analysis and help interpreting the findings. All of this additional work would require investment on the part of the university, as well as a better understanding of how UPSOC would now operate, with job descriptions, a budget and a work plan.

Topic: CPSO Chief’s report

Discussion: CPSO has retooled its hiring process with the help of the office of Global Diversity and Inclusion. Currently, two finalists for sworn officer positions are in the background check process. There is a separate process for sergeants and lieutenants.

Topic: Building Hours Change

Discussion: The Electronic Access Control Policy calls for UPSOC to be involved when changes in building operating hours are under consideration. ASRC hours will change July 1. The building will be open from 7:30 am to 8:00 pm M-F, closed Sat and Sun; card access at all other times. Building stakeholders are developing a communications plan to publicize this change. UPSOC members suggested the university install permanent signage to communicate the change.

Other Business: SB 576 (Caylee's Law)¹ is on track to pass in this legislature. Passage will have implications for CPSO.

Caylee's Law is the unofficial name for bills proposed or passed in several U.S. states that make it a felony for a parent or legal guardian to fail to report a missing child, in cases where the parent knew or should have known that the child was possibly in danger. The first such bill was introduced shortly after the high-profile Casey Anthony trial, due to Anthony not reporting her two-year-old daughter Caylee Marie Anthony missing for a period of 31 days.

Adjourned: 3:08 pm

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caylee%27s_Law