

UPSOC Attending:

Michael Alexander
Thomas Lockett
Julie Caron – Co-Chair
Yolonda Salguiero – Co-Chair
Zachary Mettler
Constantin Severe
Eduardo Chavez - Solis
Christopher Carey
Dana Walton-Macaulay
Amy Ruff
Jay Auslander
Michael J. Smith
Don Mueller

UPSOC Absent:

Michael Walsh
Francisco Saldivar
Jill Townley

UPSOC Staff:

Teresa Niedermeyer
Mark Wubbold

Guests:

Lieutenant Modica - CPSO
Maniel Padilla - RCSC
Kimberly Khan - RCSC

University Public Safety Oversight Committee (UPSOC) – October 21, 2021

Convened: 3:02 pm (via Zoom)

Topic: Review of meeting notes

Discussion: Meeting notes were approved as written.

Action: Post meeting notes to website

Topic: CPSO update - Lieutenant Modica for Chief Halliburton

Discussion: Officers attended a training by the District Attorney focused on changes in laws governing use of force. It has been five years since their last training on this topic.

CPSO officers have been running simulations and scenarios practicing how they would respond to different situations while patrolling without firearms. The goal of this training is to make officers more comfortable responding to calls while unarmed. As a result of the simulation training, officers have reported feeling more “thoughtful” about how they patrol. UPSOC members had the following training questions:

Q. Are you finding there are calls your officers would have responded to when they were armed, that they do not respond to, now that they patrol unarmed?

A. Our officers are trained to know which calls we expect them to respond to, and how. When an officer responds to a call, that call is fully documented. When we feel they could have responded differently to a call, we make “hard” corrections

so our officers rarely repeat an inappropriate response. An UPSOC observed that this approach to training can help CPSO officers (in the words of Nelson Mandela) *Make choices that reflect our hopes and not our fears.*

Other CPSO Training:

- Chief Halliburton and Sgt. Jackson are currently at leadership training.
- The Records Supervisor will be receiving augmented training on Cleary Reporting.
- CPSO public safety officers will be receiving Diversity, Equity and Inclusion training.

CPSO hiring update:

- CPSO is at a crisis point for staffing dispatch and public safety officers positions. Recruiting continues for these positions, but they struggle to find suitable candidates.
- They continue to recruit sworn officers to bring the unit to full capacity. Modica asked UPSOC members to help find suitable officer candidates since they are so familiar with the needs of the institution and its culture.
- Modica is interested in working with the Portland Police Bureau (PPB) to become a “pipeline” for new officers. We know sworn officers typically stay in one organization for 2-4 years. His idea is to work with PPB to recruit diverse candidates that would be trained by PSU and work there first before moving into PPB positions. Such a proposal fits the PSU ethos of “Letting Knowledge Serve the City” while creating a steady stream of diverse and well trained community service oriented officers for the university and for Portland. This could be a model for a new way to train sworn officers. This idea inspired several questions from UPSOC members:

Q. Has the vaccine mandate impacted the current hiring of prospective hires?

A. Vaccine requirements have not been a barrier to CPSO hiring.

Q. There is concern about having PPB answering calls on campus. What is the status of the IGA with PPB?

A. IGA mutual aid calls will continue to be for tactical/armed/domestic violence/car stops....etc. where an armed response is appropriate. CPSO will be notified before PPB answers a call on campus. The IGA is with our general counsel.

Q. Becoming a training ground for sworn officers is an interesting idea. Has there been discussion about creating a degree program around this idea; perhaps with a link to PCC?

A. We are in the early stages of thinking about this idea. Academic collaborations (PSU-PCC) are complicated and take time to develop.

However, we are confident there is a need for programs that develop peace officers that are academically supported throughout their training.

CPSO policy update:

- CPSO will be getting ready for UPSOC's policy review subcommittee to begin reviewing the revised manual. Given the size of the manual, Modica would like them to review at least 10 policies every 90 days.

Other CPSO discussion: UPSOC members observed that recruiting police officers has become a national challenge and that PSU's new model may lead to a different approach to policing. They used the term "Relational Policing" to describe the type of policing they are observing at PSU. A doctoral student in the School of Sociology is doing a study of the transition PSU is going through as its CPSO officers begin to patrol unarmed. According to Lieutenant Modica only Princeton and PSU's sworn officers patrol unarmed, which begs the question: can PSU develop a policing model for the nation?

Topic: UPSOC subcommittee planning discussion

Action: Postponed until the November UPSOC meeting.

Topic: Reimagining Campus Safety Committee (RCSC) update

Discussion: The RCSC has been checking in with the UPSOC co-chairs. Three UPSOC members also serve on the RCSC. The RCSC is meeting with the full UPSOC today to get feedback on the draft framework report they are working on. Specifically, they want feedback on their draft recommendations.

UPSOC feedback was open ended and nonspecific and included both questions and observations about the following:

- How will the RCSC's work be implemented so it comports with their stated priorities of Safety/Security/Welcoming/Belonging?
- How do "community policing" and "relational policing" differ?
- What is RCSC's plan to acquire priority funding for RCSC recommendations?
- What does a change to community policing mean concretely?" A change in the command structure? A change in the institutional structure?
- Considering CPSO policy changes, UPSOC members support a public comment period before adoption of new policies.
- UPSOC generally welcomes more transparency with policies. One UPSOC member with vast police oversight experience opined it was a best practice in the field for some police policies to be open to public comment.
- It is important to create a balance that weighs oversight against staffing shortages and within existing organizational structures.

- Everyone agreed that we need to help CPSO increase its visibility in the campus community.
- One recommendation for increasing CPSO's visibility was for them to provide campus public safety training....including for "basic firearm safety." UPSOC members took exception with the firearm training idea since CPSO is moving away from the use of firearms in their own work.
- UPSOC did support the idea of general safety training for the campus community since we are all responsible for safety.
- There needs to be a detailed discussion on how a Community Oversight Advisory Committee (COA) would differ from UPSOC.
- Currently, UPSOC reviews investigations reports - would that continue with a COA?
- RCSC is still looking for feedback on the items we have not yet discussed. They would like an additional meeting with UPSOC to address these.

Action: Schedule a November meeting with RCSC.

Adjourned: 5:05 p.m.