

Inclusive Public Safety Advisory Committee

March 10, 2023

11:00am-12:30pm (Zoom and in-person)

Agenda:

- Welcome, Aims for Our Time
- VP of Public Safety Report
- Public Safety Training Overview: Current Practices and DEI Updates
- Discussion and Questions
- Close

Welcome

Co-Chair Melissa Begg opened the meeting and welcomed the group.

VP of Public Safety Report

Accreditation Updates (CALEA/IACLEA)

- Goal is to be dually accredited
- CALEA – nationally/internationally recognized; 459 standards have to be met that reflect best practices and procedures; includes local/county/state/federal/university public safety agencies, reaccreditation every four years; includes an onsite assessment and a public forum
- IACLEA – internationally recognized; specific to campus law enforcement/public safety; 215 standards have to be met; includes policies, procedures, rules, regulations, etc.; reaccreditation every four years
- Dual accreditation shows that you meet the gold standard in policies, procedures and operations as an agency
- This is an arduous process – roughly two years to complete
- 6-7 people will staff this process
- Progress to date: We've initiated the application and are looking to expedite it
- How can the Committee be helpful in this process? By spreading the word and sharing the importance, as well as supporting the process as needed.

Public Safety Reports

- Dennis Mitchell shared that we will be ready in April to discuss key takeaways from the external reports

Community Engagement Updates

- Gerald Lewis has met with several student groups
- Patrick Oakley shared recent safety concerns
 - Robbery on Morningside Drive
 - Public Safety aims to serve as a deterrent (mobile patrols, booths, etc.)
 - Specialized patrol along Morningside Drive and Amsterdam Ave with lights on
 - Assault on Broadway, which led to additional patrol route on Amsterdam and Broadway
 - Identifying hotspots and increasing Public Safety activity to deter crime
- Gerald Lewis participated in recent meetings (last two weeks) with: Athletics head coaches, CUEMS, Alumni Relations, Deans of Students, Barnard Public Safety, The School at Columbia, Registrar, Kraft Center, Engineering students, Library leaders, students with disabilities. The ongoing goal is to hear more feedback from the community.

Day of Hate Preparations by Public Safety

- Planned “Day of Hate” on Saturday, February 25, 2023
- Concerned about some Jewish sites around campus
- Proactively increased Public Safety presence beginning on Friday night
- Hourly visits to the Kraft Center (outside and inside)
- Vehicles parked in vicinity of these sites
- Coordinated with the local precinct and they increased their presence as well
- No incidents to report

Lion App updates (Jorge Farina)

- App was outdated and not geared towards student users
- Public Safety worked with Engineering students to revamp the app
- There is a new version, currently in test mode. Public Safety would like feedback from the Committee (particularly students)
- Highlights
 - Easier to navigate
 - One stop shop (other services, not Public Safety related, were added)
 - “Walk a friend” tool – send a message to someone to help track location (point to point) and if they do not make it, the person can flag for Public Safety
- Will hopefully go live at the end of the month – asked the Committee to help test and spread the word to the community

Other updates

- Gerald Lewis discussed the possibility of adding a new shuttle bus route to Amsterdam Ave, after speaking to a student about her commute to the Business School.
- Gerald welcomes the opportunity to have conversations with other student groups

Public Safety Training Overview: Current Practices and DEI Updates

Matthew Childress and Tamesha Steward: Current Practices

- Planning, developing, scheduling, constructing and implementing training cycles across Public Safety, to contract officers and to the broader Columbia community
- Assessments, remediation training, skill building workshops and professional development for officers
- Newly hired officers and supervisors receive 88-128 hours of classroom training on policies, procedures, duties and responsibilities
- 240 hours of on the job training, in addition to annual NYS 8-hour training mandated by DCJS
- Contract officers are provided with 4 hours of Columbia University training
- 14 out of 16 recommendations from the working group have been fully integrated to date. The other two are currently under development
- Training managers have been assigned to each campus
- DEI is integrated in the training curriculum (including scenario-based training)
- Goal is to refresh skills for all uniformed personnel
- Collaborating with peer institutions to share experiences and best practices
- Currently in the self-assessment phase of the CALEA accreditation process
- CALEA accreditation will require the training team to include department-wide field training, career development and leadership development
- Advisory Committee will take a prominent role in the accreditation process

Ixchel Rosal: DEI Updates

- Recommendation was made for the training department to work with the Diversity Officers' Network, a subgroup is serving as the advisors to the training program at Public Safety
- The group has reviewed 6 of the trainings that are offered and has provided feedback on what's going well/where there are opportunities for improvement
- A continuous feedback loop has been established between the Public Safety Training Program and the Diversity Officers' Group
- Peer review is needed to grow and Public Safety hopes that this practice will continue

Close

Next and last meeting of the year – **April 21, 2023**