

IPSAC Meeting Notes

March 22, 2024

Agenda

- Welcome and aims for our time
- Vice President's Report
- Discussion: What is on your mind re: Public Safety? What Are You Hearing re: Public Safety?
- Next steps and close

Welcome and introductions

- New members: Robert Mulvey, Millie Wang
- Guest: Cas Holloway

Reminder of conversation guidelines

Themes from small group discussions: Working definition of Inclusive Public Safety

- Definition still generally works
- Important to have diverse voices around the table (especially around decision making)
- Transparency in relation to Public Safety and NYPD
- Actions and measures for the committee, actionable targets
- Shifting focus during changing times
- Equity while still being sensitive to group's needs in specific moments
- Acknowledging that there are different communities with different relationships to safety/Public Safety
- Fluidity in the language/dynamic language

Vice President's Report/Updates

- Fortunate that recent events have gone well supporting the new demonstration policy. Goal is to approve events and ensure events adhere to policies and procedures
- When does Public Safety include NYPD in events/activities? Based on adherence to policy, background information, and history of communication with the group.
- Communication with the group always helps.
- Appropriate staffing is being evaluated. Creating a clear process for evaluating each event - not too few or too many Public Safety staff covering.
- Recently met with Black Law Students Association and Students of Color Advisory Board. VP invites groups to be transparent, have candid discussions.
- Hearing different perspectives from members of the community is helpful. Important to have dialogue. Public Safety is willing to meet with anyone who wants to meet (affinity groups, etc.).
- Aiming to get messaging out earlier around when going to CUID-only on campus in order to limit the inconvenience to others.

Group Discussion

Two questions to address as a group:

1) *As it relates to Public Safety on campus, what is top of mind for you?*

- Barricades on Low steps - clarity and communication around the decision making process would be helpful.
 - Priority is safety, i.e., worry about someone climbing on Alma Mater and getting injured, etc.
 - Depends on number of people, history of communication with the group, relevant information about the event that necessitates barriers
 - Senior portraits often take place there, can we give students a heads up the morning of?
 - Take barricades down immediately after an event
 - Identified areas for demonstrations and events, which will lead to less barriers
- CUID only - general decision making - is there a standardized protocol/specific threshold? Possible to communicate more about this?
 - Points of consideration:
 - Non-affiliates coming on campus
 - Number of people expected - unknown when groups advertise on social media, prudent to be cautious when we don't know what to expect, bigger issue is around unauthorized protests
 - Psychological and physical safety is a priority
 - Students desire for campus to be "normal" during protests
 - Review of events does not go through Public Safety - it goes through Special Events Advisory Team (SEAT)
 - Suggestion: have a meeting in place with groups and Public Safety directly to review events/demonstrations to foster information sharing
- Controversial speaker on campus - students felt unsafe/unprotected, people would have felt more comfort if there was some sort of acknowledgement from the University. Also confusion around the protocol for canceling/not canceling controversial speakers.
 - University officials usually address/manage this, not Public Safety - Public Safety has to be fair and balanced - cannot take sides - must keep everyone safe whether or not we agree with them
- A way to channel information from Public Safety to all student groups with updates, invitations to meet, etc.
 - Rely on student groups to share information with others after meetings/interactions with Gerald/Public Safety. Will do additional outreach to student groups
- NYPD/Public Safety relationship and distinction - Bacchanal and other large student events - what will that look like, will there be heavy PS presence there?

- Ideally handle these events within Public Safety, not with NYPD unless there is information that causes alarm, we will limit to solely Public Safety without NYPD assistance
 - Clear communication line with the organizers of the event
 - Some groups don't communicate because there has been a breach of trust/fear of retaliation. How do we rebuild trust and rekindle relationships?
 - New demonstration policy is an approach to rebuilding trust
 - Aim is to build trust with Public Safety, as well
- 2) *As it relates to Public Safety on campus, what are you hearing/seeing in your day to day experiences or in discussion with your peers?*
- Glasshouse Rocks (Undergrad event in Lerner where students perform) - Many groups did not perform this year. Strong Public Safety presence this year. Is there a history that warranted this or is it based on the current climate on campus?
 - Historically, there has always been a large Public Safety presence at this event due to safety concerns, egress, etc.
 - Students are more cognizant of Public Safety presence this year
 - Difference between policing and preserving safety.
 - Public Safety is constantly reallocating officers/resources for strategic reactions because of safety concerns
 - Public Safety wants to serve as a deterrent
 - Tiered plan to adjust number of Public Safety officers staffing events
 - Are Public Safety officers taught/instructed to report via Maxient?
 - Yes - they are trained to report complaints properly

Suggestions for topics for the next meeting: April 26 at 11:00am (last meeting of the year)

1. Look at how we're introducing the broader Public Safety organization to new students during orientation?