

# Chancellor's Campus Life & Safety Task Force

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## Campus Life and Safety

*“ When colleges do surveys to find out what parents look for in a college, personal safety always comes out very near the top of the list. At informational sessions, parents want to know how campus security personnel keep nonstudents off campus, how the dorms are secured against unwanted visitors, how the pedestrian paths are lighted, and how the campus is routinely patrolled. They want the statistics on campus violence, robberies, rapes, and brawls. They try to help their children choose a college that cares about their safety. ” (Kadison, 2004, p.76)*

## Crime on Campuses

- » Broader literature on campus crime suggests:
  - Students often do not report victimization experiences. The general public behaves the same.
  - Crime rates on campuses are normally far lower than in the general public.
  - Students experience less violent victimization than nonstudents of the same age.
    - Sexual assault for women is one exception to this rule.
  - Colleges and universities report lower crime rates than the communities in which they are situated.

## Crime on Campuses (continued)

- » Broader literature on campus crime suggests:
  - Crimes are primarily property offenses. Most appear to be preventable.
  - National estimates suggest 20-25% of college women may experience a completed or attempted rape.
    - College women experience substantially more sexual crimes than women of the same age who are not in college.
  - It is difficult to gauge the effects of protective measures taken by students and institutions.

## Victimization Experiences Among College Students

- » In general:
  - Men experience far more violent crime than women.
  - Violent crime is more common among those who use alcohol/drugs.
  - Women tend to fear sexual assault by strangers, while far greater risk is by acquaintances.

## Fear of Crime

- » The subjective perception that an individual is at risk
- » The perception by a student, faculty, or staff member that a particular time or place on campus is “risky” can generate fear sufficient to alter behavior
- » Behavior includes travel patterns, living arrangements, and even attendance or employment

## Clery Crime Rates on IL Campuses

University	Total Clery Crimes per 1k Students 2009	Total Clery Crimes Per 1k Students 2010	Total Clery Crimes per 1k Students 2011
UIUC	2.958	3.314	2.183
EIU	1.761	2.188	1.694
NIU	1.884	1.192	1.761
WIU	3.844	4.730	9.019
ISU	3.117	2.408	2.087
UIC	1.464	1.521	1.649
Northwestern	2.720	1.758	2.569
NEIU	0.088	0.262	0.349
SIUE	1.771	1.967	1.675
SIUC	4.729	3.527	5.389

Offenses included in computations are: murder; criminal sexual assault; robbery; aggravated assault/battery; burglary; motor vehicle theft; arson

Rates are computed using fall 10<sup>th</sup> day on-campus enrollment figures. 2011 on-campus enrollment was not available for NEIU; 2010 data were used in this table.

## Reality versus Perceptions

- » Clergy data reflect (somewhat) objective reality. What they fail to capture are perceptions of students, staff, and faculty.
- » Tentative data from SIUC can address that issue.
  - Fall 2009 - Spring 2010 project conducted by SIUC Criminology & CJ faculty
  - Surveys from more than 5K students across 6 IL colleges & universities
  - Includes 1K students from SIUC



## Fear of Crime & Perceived Risk of Criminal Victimization

- » Students were asked to rate their on-campus fear (9 offenses) and perceived risk of victimization (4 offenses) during daytime and nighttime.
- » SIUC students reported relatively normal fear and perceived risk in relation to peers at the other 5 institutions.
- » Overall students expressed fear, but perceived they were at little risk
  - Women were significantly more fearful and perceived themselves at greater risk than men.

## SIU Data: Student Conduct Code

- » Nearly 90% of SIU students are never referred to Student Rights and Responsibilities (SR&R) for a conduct code violation
- » The 10% (2005 students) who do violate the Conduct Code
  - 70% have only one violation within the academic year
  - 13% have three or more violations within the year

## SIU Student Conduct: 2011 vs. 2012

### Fall 2011 - First 8 weeks

- » 552 Cases Referred to SR&R
- » 333 of these cases are for violence or behaviors associated with violence
  - Alcohol Violations: 200
  - Controlled Substance Violations: 66
  - Violence: 61
  - Weapons: 6

### Fall 2012 - First 8 weeks

- » 720 Cases Referred to SR&R
- » 353 of these cases are for violence or behaviors associated with violence
  - Alcohol Violations: 192
  - Controlled Substances Violations: 99
  - Violence: 51
  - Weapons: 11

## Summary

- » Though there is room for improvement in campus life and safety, objective data suggests SIUC and its students are not radically different from peer institutions in Illinois.
- » Most reported crimes are property offenses. Many crimes could be avoided through the application of standard crime prevention recommendations.
- » Preliminary data suggest most students are not overly fearful, though clearly some students express heightened concern over their safety.
- » Anecdotal evidence and institutional data suggests that a small number of individuals generate a disproportionate amount of the quality of life and safety concerns on our campus.

## Chancellor's Charge to Task Force

- » Examine current practices at SIU
- » Compare SIU practices with peer institutions and best practices literature
- » Determine short-term and long-term needs regarding campus life and safety

## 7 Key Areas of Focus

- » Communication
- » University Housing
- » Student Mentoring & Life Skill Development
- » Faculty and Staff Training
- » University and Community Collaboration
- » Policies and Mandates
- » Research

## Additional Task Force Members

- » Dr. Mark Amos
- » Dr. Harold Bardo
- » Dr. Peter Gitau
- » Assistant Director Tina Horvath
- » Chief Jody O'Guinn
- » Dr. Stacia Robertson
- » Associate Vice Chancellor Lori Stettler
- » Director Chad Trisler
- » Dr. Derrick Williams

## Implementation of Task Force Recommendations

- » Task Force Report and Recommendations
  - <http://www.chancellor.siu.edu/reports.html>
  - Full Report and Executive Summary
- » Taken the recommendations from the Seven Key Areas and created a Work Matrix of Task Force Goals, Objectives, Department Responsible for Task, and Implementation/Completion Date
- » Spring, 2013 we will conduct feedback and focus groups with constituency groups at SIU and in Carbondale



## Communication

- » Increase sense of commitment to community values among students, faculty and staff
- » Increase efforts to inform students, faculty and staff about community resources dedicated to providing safety services
- » Quick, precise communication regarding perceived and actual violence and a commitment to own what is the responsibility of the University to improve and what it will not tolerate

## University Housing

- Increase surveillance and monitoring of interior and exterior entrances of the Residence Halls.
- Monitor and increase staffing within the residence halls.
- Increase training/qualifications of residence hall front desk employees.
- Survey Peer Institutions to determine best practices regarding qualifications of front desk employees in residence halls

## University Housing (continued)

- Conduct cost benefit analysis of hiring security personnel to work the front desk
- Explore re-establishing community policing within the residence halls
- Implement the University Housing Master Plan with the goal for completion of the first project, 446-bed development for the fall of 2015

## Student Mentoring & Life Skill Development

- Communication of University Expectations In and Out of Classroom to Promote Student Success and Safety
- Mentoring of Traditionally Underserved Groups

## Faculty and Staff Training

- Train faculty and staff to increase skills, knowledge and self-awareness to enhance their effectiveness in responding to distressed students, employees, and visitors.
- Norton Norris Training of staff and faculty
- Increase campus employee's multicultural competence to foster an environment of inclusiveness and reduce micro-aggressions toward minority students, faculty, and staff.

## University & Community Collaboration

- Increased overtime detail foot and bicycle patrols
- Increased publicity efforts through news outlets, web sites, and public service announcements outlining safety tips and prevention strategies
- Focused “Hot Spot” patrols based on weekly RMS/GIS data collection
- Video and physical surveillance of suspects based on intelligence gathered through informants and through “Hot Spot” data collection

## University & Community Collaboration (continued)

- Collaborative enforcement efforts between Carbondale Police Department and SIUC Department of Public Safety - Hot Spot, DUI, Party Patrol
  - Implementing a new collaborative drug task force
- Crime tracking and prediction through use of Crime Prediction Algorithm program
- Aggressive enforcement of victimless crimes. By placing a greater focus on minor or victimless crimes such as prostitution, drugs, vandalism, littering, and loitering, we are hopeful such efforts will prevent many serious crimes

## Policies and Mandates

- » The task force strongly recommends that the following policies be reviewed in the next 12 months, updated or otherwise amended to address the noted critical issues
  - *Student Conduct Code*
  - *University Sexual Harassment Policy*
  - *Admissions Policy*
  - *Suicidal Threats and/or Attempts Policy*
  - *Administrative Review Policy*
  - *Workplace Violence Policy*
  - *Clery Act Compliance*



## Policies and Mandates (continued)

- » Create a position of *Clery Act Compliance Officer* to coordinate and oversee University-wide compliance with Clery Act obligations
- » Ensure that all policies remain consistent with changing laws, regulations and guidance, as well as internally consistent with other university policies

## Research

- **Campus Climate Survey:** Perception of safety and violence on campus. Perhaps more than any other area, the understanding of campus climate is based on conjecture rather than data.
- **Housing Climate Survey:** Perception of safety and violence in housing by residents and staff. Related, but distinct from Goal One, is a better understanding of the experiences and perceptions of those living and working in university housing
- **Student Success:** Students Admitted under Holistic Admissions Policy and Late Admits

Table 2.

Mean fear levels while on campus during the day, by crime type<sup>1</sup>

	SIUC Mean	Five Comparison Campus Means				
		State Univ. 1	State Univ. 2	Comm. College 1	Private College 1	Private College 2
Property crime						
Textbook stolen	2.57	2.34	1.91	2.27	2.13	2.21
Electronic item stolen	4.34	4.07	3.92	3.95	4.04	4.26
Wallet/purse stolen	3.95	3.66	3.52	3.92	3.84	4.16
Property vandalized	3.05	3.07	2.68	3.29	2.36	2.42
Personal crime						
Stalked	2.45	2.39	2.27	2.72	2.35	2.54
Raped/sexually assaulted	2.33	2.19	2.15	2.43	2.34	2.37
Robbed/mugged	2.56	2.30	2.31	2.76	2.92	2.89
Beaten up	2.31	2.13	2.03	2.42	2.26	2.20
Shot at in classroom	2.77	2.83	2.44	2.73	2.39	2.38

<sup>1</sup>Fear values are based on a 1-10 scale with the lowest value indicating "not at all fearful" and the highest value indicating "very fearful".

Table 3.

Mean fear levels while on campus during the nighttime, by crime type<sup>1</sup>

	SIUC <i>Mean</i>	Five Comparison Campus Means				
		State Univ. 1	State Univ. 2	Comm. College 1	Private College 1	Private College 2
Property crime						
Textbook stolen	2.96	2.44	2.33	2.72	2.51	2.70
Electronic item stolen	4.59	4.15	4.63	4.15	4.42	4.71
Wallet/purse stolen	4.70	4.27	4.98	4.24	4.64	4.84
Property vandalized	4.31	4.20	4.25	4.04	3.24	3.27
Personal crime						
Stalked	4.29	3.86	4.66	3.76	4.06	4.12
Raped/sexually assaulted	4.20	3.68	4.74	3.52	3.98	3.74
Robbed/mugged	5.03	4.20	5.49	4.10	4.91	4.54
Beaten up	4.33	3.83	4.97	3.48	4.08	3.58
Shot at in classroom	2.87	2.65	2.77	3.09	2.65	2.72

<sup>1</sup>Fear values are based on a 1-10 scale with the lowest value indicating "not at all fearful" and the highest value indicating "very fearful".

Table 5.

Likelihood of victimization (risk) while on campus, by time and offense type<sup>1</sup>

	SIUC Mean	Five Comparison Campus Means				
		State Univ. 1	State Univ. 2	Comm. College 1	Private College 1	Private College 2
<b>On-campus during the day</b>						
Having something stolen	2.24	2.17	2.01	2.23	2.19	2.32
Being assaulted/beaten up	1.58	1.48	1.50	1.64	1.47	1.50
Being raped/sexually assaulted	1.46	1.37	1.42	1.47	1.39	1.40
Being shot at	1.80	2.00	1.77	1.76	1.60	1.55
<b>On-campus during the night</b>						
Having something stolen	2.78	2.63	2.95	2.57	2.63	2.70
Being assaulted/beaten up	2.46	2.34	2.84	2.06	2.19	1.99
Being raped/sexually assaulted	2.36	2.21	2.71	2.01	2.22	2.03
Being shot at	2.05	1.98	2.05	1.98	1.87	1.73

<sup>1</sup>Risk values are based on a 1-5 scale with the lowest value indicating that victimization is "very unlikely" and the highest value indicating victimization is "very likely".