Personal Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)

2017-2018 REPORT

http://www.binghamton.edu/personal-safety/index.html
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II. Executive Summary

The Binghamton University Personal Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) met several times throughout the 2017-18 academic year. In addition, the committee met for two evening safety tours (Campus-By-Night); November 2017 and May 2018.

The PSAC documented actions and concerns in the form of a Summary List and a Detailed Log; both included within this report. Both documents are also available on the PSAC web site:

http://www2.binghamton.edu/personal-safety/index.html

The 2017-18 Committee also uses an online Safety Concern Report Form, found here on Google Forms or at this full URL address:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GL0YzkndgZOFbuzpaTZkHALa7ig3crrnZTNaSOaTJzc/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link.

6/30/2018
## III. Log of Concerns and Actions

### Summary

Concerns submitted to the PSAC as of FYE 6/30/2018:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Concern</th>
<th>New Concerns this period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transit - vehicle/bicycle safety, routes, stops, shelters</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities - buildings, housekeeping, maintenance</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedestrian Safety (Indoor/Outdoor) - parking lots, walking paths, lighting, walking surfaces (ice, uneven pavement, etc.)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security - personal safety, violence prevention, building access</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indoor - air quality, ventilation, temperature</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety equipment, Signs, Fire Safety, Exits, AEDs, First-Aid</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other: #97 test of reporting system</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total New Concerns:</strong>                                                            **</td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the following sections, one entry may address the several of the same or similar concern.
A. New Concerns Closed

1. Mohawk sidewalk fills with water and ice (#91)
   PSAC discussion: none
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: Correct the design and install new sidewalk. New sidewalk constructed.

2. Crosswalk safety at Hinman / Lecture Hall (#93)
   PSAC discussion: This crosswalk is highly trafficked by both pedestrians and vehicles. The flashing lights that indicate a pedestrian is entering or in the crosswalk were not working properly.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: Repair flashing alert lights. Sensors redirected toward crosswalk and lights working.

3. Test of form reporting tool (#97)
   PSAC discussion: none
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: no action needed

4. Overcrowded meeting room (#98)
   PSAC discussion: room capacity was not adhered to by class leader. Class leaders need to adhere to capacity limits and if excess capacity is encountered, find a more suitable space through Space Management.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: no action needed

5. Students walking in road - no sidewalks near Lots Y4/Y5 (#99)
   PSAC discussion: There are no sidewalks along the roads in these areas. Posted speed limits are 25 mph and enable observance and modification of vehicle travel to accommodate occasional pedestrian in roadway.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: If action taken, perhaps along roadways where sidewalks are not present to add signs indicating “Share the Road” with pedestrians and/or bicycles.

6. Path between Anderson Center and Lot E is not well lit (#100)
   PSAC discussion: PSAC Campus by Night toured the area, walked entire length at night and observed reasonably well-lit facilities.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: no action needed

7. Walkway between Academic A and Academic B lacks lighting (#101)
   PSAC discussion: PSAC Campus by Night toured the area, walked entire length at night and observed reasonably well-lit facilities.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: no action needed

8. Parking Lot M including walkway to “upper lot” is very dark (#102)
   PSAC discussion: PSAC Campus by Night toured the area at night and observed reasonably well-lit facilities with some dark areas. Additional lighting has been placed and existing lighting has been redirected to cover previously dark areas.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: no further action needed
B. New and Open Concerns (no complete solution yet)

1. Health Center Going out East Drive – needs sidewalk (#4) (Existing Open)
   PSAC discussion: Risk of and to pedestrians in roadway is high, especially in winter months.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: Consider widening the roadbed, moving curb out to accommodate a pedestrian “lane” on shoulder which would allow for more economical maintenance

2. FA/Anderson Center 2nd floor walkway “Bridge” needs sensor (Existing Open)
   PSAC discussion: The lights on the walkover bridge are on switches and like many other campus hallways should be changed out to sensors to illuminate when people are present or nearing the hallway.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: Replace manual switches with sensors

3. Crosswalk Lighting around campus (#4, 10, 104) (Existing Open)
   PSAC discussion: Many issues addressed above and the PSAC supports installation of additional speed tables and better lighting at various locations.

4. Lot Q1 diagonal crosswalk problematic (Existing Open)
   PSAC discussion: This issue has been raised in PSAC meetings, and has been described as being part of a larger “master plan for the south end of campus”
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: remove steps from Q1 to Union, direct all foot traffic down slopes to recognized crosswalk locations. Until such time as the steps are removed, or traffic flow is redesigned, the steps leading to cross-traffic routes presents a significant risk to pedestrians and motorists alike.

5. Lighting on sidewalk at south end of Bartle Library (#103) (Existing Open)
   PSAC discussion: Mike Kukawa will follow up with designers on what could be used in that location.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: Install wall packs or cans to illuminate walkway
   PARTIAL RESOLUTION: Several existing lights were found to be not operating. The electricians repaired them and the lights throw additional light. The PSAC will review the area during the next walk by night.

6. Curb cut needed near CPS from East Gym (Existing Open)
   PSAC discussion: This location viewed during Campus by Night; observed as needing a curb cut.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: install curb cut

7. East Drive Yield sign at Bartle Drive is dangerous (Existing Open)
   PSAC discussion: The intersection can be confusing and witnesses report horns/brakes up to several times each day.
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: Replace Yield sign with STOP sign for East Drive traffic, giving right of way to vehicles exiting Couper loop/Lot B. Recommendation passed to TAPS for implementation.

8. “Otter Slide” – PEC-discussed concerns, ad hoc walking path from Appalachian Collegiate Center to the Upper Paid Parking Lot. (Existing Open)
   PSAC discussion: concerned from past semesters
   PSAC RECOMMENDATION: Reconfigure sidewalks to address need for more direct route/connection to upper parking lot.
9. **Anderson Center outdoor lawn and steps dark, lighting obstructed** #92  
   **PSAC discussion:** Attendants shine flashlights on stairs, helping to illuminate steps, but long term solution is needed.  
   **PSAC RECOMMENDATION:** Prune trees around light to allow light to flood steps. Replace mounted lamps with LED floods to cover lawn area.

10. **Wall along southern edge of Lot F1 is hazardous, can’t see pedestrians exiting ramp into crosswalk** #94  
    **PSAC discussion:** Discussed installation of signs, relocating crosswalk so that ramp does not “dump” pedestrians into roadway,  
    **PSAC RECOMMENDATION:** Place pedestrian signs along downward ramp to “stop, look both ways before proceeding”, also refer to Concern #10 as part of #3 above and suggest a speed table/flashing lights for pedestrian crossing at this location.

11. **Library (South) ground floor doors not accessible to those with disabilities**  
    **PSAC discussion:** none  
    **PSAC RECOMMENDATION:** This is an accessibility issue and was redirected to SSD Office

12. **Library Tower can’t limit window openings, fall hazard** #96  
    **PSAC discussion:** Ongoing concern about LT windows swing open such that a person could fit through the opening and fall. Discussed amending rods to limit swing distance, use of chains, etc.  
    **PSAC RECOMMENDATION:** Office holders and space managers should practice safe security measures and restrict access to windows. In areas where security can not be provided primarily by a lockable office it is possible to use a rod “lug-type” clamp (see photo inset) with Lock- te to limit rod travel, thus restricting window opening to any amount deemed safe, at a hardware cost of <$5 per window.

12. **Vehicles speed through Lot E to/ from Recreation Drive. Posted speed limit is 5 mph and most vehicles exceed that regularly driving over 25 mph** (#105/106)  
    **PSAC discussion:** PSAC has not discussed as concern submitted last meeting.  
    **PSAC RECOMMENDATION:** FROM CHAIR: Possibly install speed sign. Replace double yellow line with single yellow line since it is not a formal roadway, paint warning such as "5 mph speed limit CAUTION" into the lane to catch drivers’ attention and remind them of speed limit and that they are in a parking lot, not on a road.
IV. SUNY Board of Trustees Charge to the PSAC

Policy Title: Establishment of Campus Safety Advisory Committees
Effective Date: July 1, 2004
This policy item applies to: State-Operated Campuses

Summary:
It is the policy of the State University of New York (University) to comply with legal requirements of Article 129-A of NYS Education Law §6431 (Regulation of Conduct on Campus and Other College Property Used for Educational Purposes). Accordingly, the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York has adopted written rules requiring campuses to establish campus safety advisory committees. These committees will provide advice and written reports on issues relating to personal safety on the campus as well as perform identified requirements of 20 USC §1092(f), also known as the “Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.” (See the University procedure on Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Reporting for information regarding the requirements and format for reporting official crime statistics.)

Policy:

I. Establishment of Campus Safety Advisory Committee

It is the policy of the State University of New York (University) to comply with legal requirements of Article 129-A of NYS Education Law §6431 (Regulation of Conduct on Campus and Other College Property Used for Educational Purposes). Accordingly, the Board of Trustees of the University has adopted written rules requiring campuses to establish campus safety advisory committees.

A. Committee Composition – The committee shall consist of a minimum of six members:
1. at least half of the committee shall be female;
2. one-third of the committee shall be appointed from a list of students that contains at least twice the number to be appointed, which is provided by the largest student governance organization on the campus;
3. one-third of the committee shall be appointed from a list of faculty members that contains twice the number to be appointed, which is provided by the largest faculty organization on the campus; and
4. one-third of the committee shall be selected by the president.

B. Committee Responsibilities - The committee shall review current campus security policies and procedures and make recommendations for their improvement. It shall specifically review current policies, plans and procedures for:
1. educating the campus community, including security personnel and those persons who advise or supervise students, about sexual assault pursuant to §6432 of Article 129-A of NYS Education Law (connects to an external link);
2. educating the campus community about personal safety and crime prevention;
3. reporting sexual assaults and dealing with victims during investigations;
4. referring complaints to appropriate authorities;
5. counseling victims; and
6. responding to inquiries from concerned persons.

C. Written Annual Reporting - The committee shall report in writing, at least once (June 15) each academic year to:
1. the campus president;
2. the entire campus including faculty, staff, administrators and students in publications or appropriate mailing; and
3. when requested, applicants for enrollment or employment.

This annual written report does not constitute the mandatory reporting of official crime statistics (see the University procedure on Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Reporting).
V. 2017-2018 PSAC Committee Composition

The Personal Safety Advisory Committee is structured to align with the charge of the Trustees, including the Male/Female requirement (as per committee charge of at least 50% female).

Faculty

Kris na Lambright, CCPA Human Development
Rachel Turner, University Libraries
TBD (due to retirement of member)

Appointed by the President

CHAIR: Eric Backlund, Risk Management and Compliance
Madeline Bay, Binghamton University Police
Mike Kukawa, Physical Facilities

Student Members

Celine Dorsanvil
Raaga Rajagopala
Bryana Snyder

Ex officio Members

Renee Andrews, Project Coordinator, Physical Facilities
William Ziegler, Watson School of Engineering
Tracey Debnar, Risk Management

The PSAC Website
Contains safety information useful to students, staff, faculty, and visitors:
http://www2.binghamton.edu/personal-safety/index.html

PSAC Detailed Log of Actions and Concerns
Tracks each concern in more detail, as reported to the PSAC. The PSAC Log is summarized above within this report.
Binghamton University Security, Safety, Policies and Procedures

A. Clery Act Information


As per the requirements of the Clery Act, on an annual basis all faculty and staff are informed of the website containing information about crime statistics at the University. A copy of Binghamton University’s Annual Security Report is available by accessing the following website: [http://asr.binghamton.edu/](http://asr.binghamton.edu/) (the 2015 ASR is the most current available as of this date). This report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on-campus; in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by Binghamton University; and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from, the campus. The report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as policies concerning sexual assault, and other matters. Preparation and dissemination of the Annual Security Report and Annual Fire Report is coordinated by the University’s Clery Act Coordinator, with the assistance of several other offices.

B. Mandated Online training for employees


C. Employee-centered reports/policies include:

- Clery Act reporting: [http://www2.binghamton.edu/human-resources/policies/clery-act.html](http://www2.binghamton.edu/human-resources/policies/clery-act.html)
- Campus and Workplace Violence Prevention on: [http://www.binghamton.edu/human-resources/policies/workplace-violence.html](http://www.binghamton.edu/human-resources/policies/workplace-violence.html)
- The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can provide information and referral assistance to faculty and staff dealing with drug or alcohol-related problems. The Associate Director of EAP Ada Robinson-Perez ([arobins@binghamton.edu](mailto:arobins@binghamton.edu)) and EAP Coordinator Mary Ellen Niefer ([mniefer@binghamton.edu](mailto:mnieber@binghamton.edu)) can be reached at x7-6655.
- Domestic Violence in the Workplace Policy at [http://www.binghamton.edu/human-resources/policies/domestic-violence.html](http://www.binghamton.edu/human-resources/policies/domestic-violence.html). Refer to the contact information included within the policy.
D. Campus Safety Resources

- Campus Safety – General: [hp://www.binghamton.edu/about/campus-safety.html](http://www.binghamton.edu/about/campus-safety.html)
- Emergency Management website at [hp://emergency.binghamton.edu](http://emergency.binghamton.edu)
- Environmental Health and Safety (fire, general, lab safety): [hp://www.binghamton.edu/ehs/](http://www.binghamton.edu/ehs/)
- Facilities Master Plan [hp://www.binghamton.edu/physical-facilities/f_acilities-master-plan.html](http://www.binghamton.edu/physical-facilities/f_acilities-master-plan.html), includes many safety features
- New York State University Police - [hp://www.binghamton.edu/police/index.html](http://www.binghamton.edu/police/index.html)
- Off Campus Safety - Specific Measures and Activities: [hp://www.binghamton.edu/occ/safety.html](http://www.binghamton.edu/occ/safety.html)
- Safe Ride
- Walking Escorts

E. Emergency Alert System and Emergency Communications

There is no single communication method capable of reaching 100% of the campus community 100% of the time. To maximize the ability of reaching the largest possible percentage of people on campus, Binghamton University utilizes multiple methods of communicating emergency information. Available techniques for communicating critical information include the following methods:

- **Text / electronic messaging.** Text messaging allows emergency messages to be sent directly to your mobile device. **This service is the only service which requires individuals to register for this service.** Emergency text messages will not be delivered to people who have not registered for this service. Registration is available to all students, staff and faculty through the BU Brain ([hp://bubrain.binghamton.edu/](http://bubrain.binghamton.edu/))
- **Outdoor siren.** Binghamton University operates an outdoor siren capable of being heard from all outdoor spaces on the Vestal campus. See Outdoor Siren procedures for additional information.
- **BU Alert line (607-777-7700).** Calling this number will provide a recorded message with updated information regarding all emergency incidents and weather-related information for the Binghamton University campus.
- **Electronic LED message boards & TV Screens.** The university manages a series of electronic message boards and TV screens that are placed at various locations throughout the campus. Common locations for these types of signs include the entrances to campus as well as dining facilities. These boards may be quickly ‘captured’ and programmed to display emergency messages whenever necessary.
- **Campus voice mail.** All university-owned hard-wired phones are capable of receiving voicemail messages. During an emergency incident, a recorded message containing critical information can be distributed to all campus phones.
- **University web page.** The university web page ([www.binghamton.edu](http://www.binghamton.edu)) is the official site of Binghamton University. This page will contain important information regarding critical incidents.
- **University cable channel 42.** On campus televisions may tune to cable channel 42 to receive important information during emergency events.
- **University e-mail listservs (i.e., B-Line and Dateline).** The university manages several listservs that may be utilized during emergency incidents. B-Line is the official listserv for students and Dateline is the...
official listserv for staff and faculty. The listservs may be utilized to provide updates and critical information during emergency situations.

- Campus & local television and radio. Binghamton University will continue to work with traditional media outlets to distribute information regarding emergency events and weather cancellations.
- Mobile public address systems (vehicle mounted). Emergency vehicles on the Binghamton University campus are equipped with public address systems which may be utilized to convey emergency messages when other methods may not be available or appropriate.
- Social media. Follow Binghamton University to stay up-to-date on all things Binghamton
  - Facebook
  - Twitter
  - Instagram

Please see the Binghamton University Emergency Alert Policies and Procedures document for details regarding the use of these emergency communication methods.

F. Other Safety Initiatives

Tied to this are two annual surveys, the Risk Assessment Survey, which is intended to solicit workplace safety concerns and input from department heads and the All-Employee Workplace Violence Survey, intended to solicit workplace safety concerns and input from ALL Employees.

G. University Committees/Groups/Departments that Address Safety Issues on Campus

- Alcohol and Other Drug Committee (AOD) - Smart Choices - http://www.binghamton.edu/smart-choices/
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - http://www.binghamton.edu/diversity-equity-inclusion/
- Domestic Violence in the Workplace – http://www.binghamton.edu/human-resources/policies/domestic-violence.html
- Environmental Health and Safety (fire, general, lab safety) - http://www.binghamton.edu/ehs/
- Greek Life - http://www.binghamton.edu/greek-life/
- Harpur's Ferry - http://www.harpursferry.org/
- ISSS - http://www.binghamton.edu/issss/
- IVP - http://www.binghamton.edu/ivp
- New York State University Police - http://www.binghamton.edu/police/
- OCC/Dave Husch works with the Binghamton Coalition - http://www.binghamton.edu/occ/safety.html
- Office of Student Conduct - http://www.binghamton.edu/student-conduct/
- Ombudsman - http://www.binghamton.edu/ombudsman/
- Residential Life - http://reslife.binghamton.edu/staff.html
- Sexual Assault Programs – see Team20:1
• Student of Concern Committee, Chair, Dean of Students: dos@binghamton.edu, also see Dean Of Students web page at: http://www.binghamton.edu/dean-of-students/emergency.html
• Team20:1 - http://www.binghamton.edu/counseling/services/sexual-assault-peer-education/about.html
• Title IX - Diversity Equity and Inclusion - http://www.binghamton.edu/rmac/title-ix/index.html
• Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies - http://www.binghamton.edu/womens-studies/
• Workplace Violence - http://www.binghamton.edu/human-resources/policies/workplace-violence.html

H. Student Association chartered student groups related to safety concerns

• High Hopes: http://www.highhopeshelpline.com/
• PEACE OUT: http://pa.ws.binghamton.edu/organization/peace
• Powerful Unite Ladies Striving to Elevate (PULSE): http://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/Powerful-Unite-Ladies-Striving-to-Elevate-SA
• Rainbow Pride Union: http://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/rpu
• Red Zone Project: http://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/red-zone/about
• SHADES (trying to create a safer campus): http://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/shades
• Women’s Student Union: http://bengaged.binghamton.edu/organization/womens-student-union