

University Public Safety Oversight Committee (UPSOC) monthly meeting

Feb 15, 2024 3:00 PM

UPSOC present:

- Michael Alexander
- Tory Blake (CPSO)
- Marc Frazer
- Kimberly Kahn
- Randy Mishler
- Don Mueller
- Brady Roland
- Constantin Severe
- Michael Smith
- Sarah Williams
- Wendy Weir

UPSOC absent:

- Deborah Arthur
- Nic Francisco
- Avneet Sidhu

UPSOC staff:

- Meeseon Kwon

Guests:

- Chief Willie Halliburton - CPSO

Topic: Call to order

- Don called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM.

Topic: Approve January meeting notes

- Sarah moved to approve January minutes; Michael Alexander seconded
- No opposition - unanimous approval of January minutes

Topic: Chief Halliburton Update

- Campus Public Safety Office (CPSO) personnel
 - 2 officers are moving on to outside employment, and CPSO is now down to 3 public safety officers (reminder: these are unarmed positions).
 - Committee members encouraged to connect anyone interested in Campus Public Safety employment to Chief Halliburton
 - 1 Access Control Safety Specialist position remains open
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- Other updates:
 - On February 15, the CPSO Training Room was dedicated and renamed in honor of the late Keenan Powell, who passed away October 2023.
- January 26, 2024 Board of Trustees meeting
 - Chief Halliburton recounted events at recent Board of Trustees meeting
 - Main focus of protestors was on PSU's relationship to Boeing and involvement in Middle East.
 - Board postponed the meeting and reconvened in an alternative location.
 - One officer punched twice. Officers did not abuse authority.
 - Officers did not have crowd control experience. Crowd control training is underway
 - Training will be manual with hands ahead of next Board meeting
 - As new officers are onboarded, will be ongoing training and refresher course
 - 4 hours of crowd control training
 - CPSO is reviewing crowd control policy

- Damage done to building walls; officers in process of identifying who was involved
- UPSOC member made suggestion to share information ahead of next Board meeting that explains the university and Boeing relationship because sense that some students may not understand this
- Question asked when additional force allowed under current policy
 - Currently won't intervene unless property damage or bodily injury are present; haven't had this issue in last 8 years
 - These videos will be incorporated in future trainings
- Is there planned dialogue on campus or communication
 - There has not been a campus-wide statement
 - Recommendation for more proactive CPSO communication - not focusing on January 26 necessarily but clarifying what the university plans to do moving forward
 - Suggestion to have instead included PSU community in being made aware of this incident particularly in identifying students who were involved in damaging property and violence while reiterating support for nonviolent protest and clearly indicating where things crossed the line
- Analysis of video thus far has shown that many involved were not students but community members
 - Question asked about an after action process - per Chief, currently underway
 - Chief acknowledged many mistakes made related to communication, crowd control training or lack thereof, communication of clear routes to Trustees
 - Encouragement and wish for whole campus to hear above - admission of mistakes and lesson learned
- Chief committed to bring back identified training to UPSOC for initial feedback and concerns
 - UPSOC training subcommittee indicated available for chief

Topic: New business

- Introduction of Albert Roberson, AVP Equity and Compliance
- ASPSU open house
 - ASPSU convened town hall last week to discuss public safety with 15-20 attendees
 - Chief called to attend to an issue so just UPSOC Avneet and Sarah representing what public safety was on campus to room of attendees
 - Represented an opportunity for UPSOC to engage with campus community - need to not hide away.

Topic: Subcommittee Updates

- **Hiring**
 - No new hiring committee requests from CPSO
- **Incident Review**
 - No members present at this meeting
- **Training**
 - Tentative meeting set for February 23
 - Action item - CPSO crowdsourcing training update

- **Policy**
 - No updates
- **Communications**
 - CPSO Instagram account highlighted

Topic: Discussing 2023-24 goals and tasks

- Proposal for discussion of such topics as creation of UPSOC-specific hiring questions for CPSO candidates, doing more independent review of reports/data, items of importance (consultants, staffing, surveys), training, student/campus engagement, and review of charter.
 - Need to discuss goals and tasks want to move forward like:
 - Bringing together hiring questions for hiring committee when meet candidates
 - Independent review of incidents
 - Collect more data to understand what CPS is facing and types of calls
 - Do we need to find funding
 - Review charter and ensure up to date
 - Engagement
 - Oversight - what does this mean and how do we put teeth into this for this committee
 - Comment made that “oversight” should not come out of title - but what should come in is more substance and teeth in oversight
 - Proposal made to bring in consultant to assist goal setting
 - CPSO needs full time facilitator and admin staff particularly for data
 - Also need designated training officer
 - Additional UPSOC comments
 - Need to prioritize operations position and rehiring of this position in CPSO - ensures officer’s able to focus on primary responsibilities
 - Funding - CPSO doesn’t have all essential positions posted
 - Advocate for increased funding - PO and FADM
 - Recommend report for President
 - UPSOC members need to prepare ideas of what should or can be done
 - Proposal made to return next month with more concrete idea of what needs to be done

Topic: Discussion

- Consider whether interest in staying on next academic year on committee
- June last meeting - off summer; return September
- Proposal for another ASPSU open house

Adjourned at 4:45 PM