

Georgia Institute of Technology

Welfare and Security Committee

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

1:00 p.m.

Boggs Building, Room 3-47

MINUTES

Attendance

Members in Attendance

Gary Spichiger (EHS) – Chair
Al Concord (GTRI)
Julia Falvey for Nagela Nukuna (SGA)
Linda Harley (BIOMED)
Patricia Kenly (Library)
Dana Simpson (OSP) – Executive Board representative
Gary Spichiger (EHS)

Members Absent

Patricia Bazrod (DoPP)
Andrew Howard (GTRI)
Joshi Tapesh (SGA)

Invited Guests

Brian Bonus (GTPD)
William Smith (GTPD – Emergency Preparedness)
Nazia Zakir (EHS)

Introduction

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Gary Spichiger at 1:10 p.m. Mr. Spichiger welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Administration

The minutes from the August 26, 2015 meeting were approved.

Discussion

Outstanding action items from the August 2015 meeting

Since the August meeting, Mr. Gary Spichiger was elected to the Chair position for the Welfare and Security Committee.

New Items

SGA Campus Safety Walk

Ms. Linda Harley indicated her interest in the committee attending the SGA Campus Safety Walk and inquired when SGA would be having its next Campus Safety Walk. Ms. Julia Falvey indicated that it occurred approximately two weeks ago. Mr. Spichiger will contact the SGA's VP of Campus Services so that the committee can be added to the SGA notification list for the Campus Safety Walk.

Parking Concerns for Library Staff on Saturday Football Game Days

Ms. Patricia Kenly indicated that there have been concerns expressed by library staff working on Saturday football game days regarding parking and safely returning to their vehicles. The concern is that on game days their normal parking spots located close to the library are not accessible on game days and they have to park much further away, the result being they have to walk long distances at night. Oftentimes the hours at which they have to return to their vehicles make for a long walk in the dark on their own. This makes the individuals feel unsafe.

Ms. Kenly inquired whether there was a process to obtain 2-3 permits that would allow for these library staff to park close to the library even on game days. Mr. Will Smith indicated he will check to see if the GTPD Emergency Preparedness office could work something out for these cases. In the meantime, Mr. Brian Bonus indicated that anyone that feels unsafe walking across campus in these cases may call the GTPD dispatch and request escort.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) "Drone" Use on Campus

Ms. Dana Simpson indicated she had recently attended a webinar that discussed the topic of UAVs on university campuses. Following the webinar she searched the Georgia Tech website for any information on local policy. Finding nothing formal, the question was posed about the existence or future development of a policy addressing UAV use at Georgia Tech. The general thought is that potential privacy and safety issues that accompany UAV use should be addressed.

Mr. Smith provided a basic overview of current Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements. Generally speaking, the FAA allows recreational use with

no restrictions. Specifically, however, the FAA does place flight restrictions on UAV activity above NCAA facilities that seat greater than 30,000 people, such as the football stadium, for 1 hour before and 1 hour after a game. The restriction applies to a 3-mile radius around and up to 3,000 ft. above the stadium.

Commercial UAV use has a permitting process via the FAA.

Currently there is no GT policy restricting recreational use. Research use of UAVs is currently coordinated through GTRC. Some discussions have taken place regarding a UAV policy and both recreational use and research/academic use of UAVs are being considered. Mr. Smith indicated he will work on opening lines of communication between GTRC and GTPD for research use.

Mr. Bonus indicated that currently the GTPD would respond to UAV use only if a call was received indicating unsafe operation or a nuisance.

GTPD Report

Mr. Bonus provided a brief summary of the LiveSafe app use since its launch in recent months. He has indicated that the “tip line” messaging has gotten a decent amount of use by the Georgia Tech community and has proven to be helpful. The overall use of the LiveSafe app quickly surpassed that of the prior app (Rave Guardian) at least as evidenced by app downloads. There has been positive feedback on this new app.

The introduction of GTPD officers on bikes in the campus inner core during peak hours has been met with good feedback as well from students.

GTPD Emergency Preparedness Report

Mr. Smith indicated that an exercise was recently completed for the Georgia Tech Emergency Call Center. Other upcoming exercises include a post-tornado response for Facilities Operations and Maintenance, a winter weather tabletop exercise, and active shooter exercises for Stamps Health Services and GTRI. The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Spichiger at 2:15 p.m.

Mr. Smith also demonstrated the GT WeatherSTEM site (gatech.weatherstem.com) that provides real-time weather information and imaging from three weather stations located around the Georgia Tech campus.

EHS Report

Ms. Nazia Zakir reminded the committee of the presence of Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) in buildings across campus. Training in the use of AEDs is available through the EHS Fire Safety Office and the upkeep of the AEDs is managed by the EHS General Safety Office. Any questions about the equipment

or notifications in the event an AED has been used should be directed to General Safety so that they can ensure all expendables have been replaced after use.

General Safety has seen an uptick in the requests for ergonomic assessments from Georgia Tech employees.

Coordinated Meetings of the Welfare and Security Committee with Related Staff Committees

Ms. Simpson reminded the committee that Jeanne Balsam has indicated the Faculty Executive Board is interested in this committee coordinating its activities with other similar committees at Georgia Tech. Namely, there exist two Staff committees, a Campus Physical Environment Committee and an Employee Health and Well-Being Committee. This committee agreed in principal that it should try to meet twice per Fall Term and twice per Spring Term, with one meeting each term combined with the two Staff committees and one meeting each term as an independent Faculty committee. Mr. Spichiger will contact Mr. Bill Halabi and Dr. Holbrook, Chairs of the Campus Physical Environment and Employee Health and Well-Being committees, respectively. This Welfare and Security Committee does not meet during the Summer Term.

Parents' Program Involvement

Ms. Simpson indicated that a topic of discussion in this committee last year was how to contribute to the Parents' Program for parents of incoming students. This should be addressed in future meetings.

Action Items

Mr. Spichiger will ensure he is on the Campus Safety Walk notification e-mail list for SGA.

Mr. Spichiger will establish contact with the Chairs of the Staff Campus Physical Environment Committee and an Employee Health and Well-Being Committee to discuss having periodic combined meetings.

Certification of Minutes

Minutes respectfully prepared by,

Gary Spichiger
Chair
Welfare and Security Committee