



University of California, Riverside
Campus Safety Task Force
Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2021, 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Minutes

Participants: Chair Jack Clarke, Tom Smith, Brian Haynes, Mariam Lam, Jason Stajich, Dennis McIver, Alton Carswell, Kim Overdyck, John Freese, Wade Stern, Michelle Burroughs, Nichi Yes, Brianna Simmons, Judit Palencia Gutierrez, Keona Henderson, Bert Wright, Hon. Jorge Hernandez

Non-member participants: Christine Victorino, David Bergquist, Megan Johnson

- Motion to Approve Minutes from 12/18/2020 meeting by Task Force Chair Jack Clarke. One correction to add second date of UC Campus Safety Symposium (3/24/21). The Motion was approved by the Task Force.
- Nichi Yes reminded the Task Force of the need to define "safety"; Subgroup 3 will include this as part of their discussion
- Hon. Jorge Hernandez noted that California Penal Code (PC) 1000.95 (now in effect) will have an impact on Restorative Justice discussions with regard to misdemeanors; the Task Force should consider how students may be impacted by this.
- Christine gave an overview of the subgroup documents and draft report.
 - Christine asked for feedback regarding:
 1. General recommendations for ongoing workgroup given time constraints
 2. Recognizing the range of campus input on the work; acknowledging all campus perspectives
 - Everyone will have an opportunity to provide input on language of the recommendations
 - Jack Clark emphasized that this is the beginning of a larger conversation on the issue of policing; Jack clarified his position on abolition; he is open to all proposals to make community safe.
 - Bert Wright noted the importance of executing the recommendations in a way to make fundamental change
 - Nichi noted that despite time issues, safety is still an issue on campus and this is an urgent matter; Christine agreed and recommended that this issue be raised during the final meeting with the Chancellor.
 - Jack asked the Task Force to think about a format for how the recommendations can be presented; he also emphasized the importance of raising new ideas or concerns
 - VC Haynes reiterated the need to define safety on campus; this should be explained in the preamble/opening remarks

- Subgroups met for 45 minutes as follows:
 - **Subgroup 1:** Tom Smith (host for zoom breakout room), Dennis McIver, Brian Haynes, Alton Carswell, Nichi Yes, Wade Stern, Bert Wright, Christine Victorino (staff support)
 - **Subgroup 2:** Mariam Lam (host for zoom breakout room), Brianna Simmons, Judit Palencia Gutiérrez, Michelle Burroughs, Sharon Oselin (not present, on sabbatical leave), Megan Johnson (staff support)
 - **Subgroup 3:** Jason Stajich (host for zoom breakout room), Kim Overdyck, Keona Henderson, John Freese, Hon. Jorge Hernandez, Jack Clarke (not present at subgroup meeting), David Bergquist (staff support)
- The groups presented a brief overview of their discussions:

Subgroup 3:

- Focused much of discussion on Restorative Justice and PC 1000.95; Developing education, resources and options for diversion programs
- Resources to provide to campus/students e.g. counseling partnerships in diversion programs
- UCR Restorative Justice diversion program (Charge to future Task Future)
- Addressing mental health issues on campus; partnering with SOM for mental health resources
- Homelessness and criminalization; potential resources e.g. food to go bags
- Ongoing Campus Safety Task Force (policy, procedures, resources for campus)

Subgroup 2:

- In addition to better defining safety, include more language/definition around "bias" and "systemic discrimination"
- Asked for clarity on role of the LDO and public safety complaints; LDO is not an external entity; Christine responded that this an option to review complaints; Kim Overdyck responded that the CCO office may not know about complaints against the police department
- Many students have tried to report issues with officers and feel that concerns were not reasonably addressed; need for possible anonymous reporting system; zero tolerance approach to investigation of cases

Subgroup 1:

- Discussed potential name change of police department to "Campus Safety Department"; needs to be more than a symbolic shift and involve moving away from a policing stance and toward a campus safety stance
- Accountability framework; look at both positives and negatives to build trust
- Uniforms vs. no uniforms; sworn officers vs. non-sworn officers; rethink how police interact with the public
- Integration of public safety activities and mental health services on campus and after-hour resources

- Timeline for Draft Report (Christine):
 - Finalize draft by Monday at 5pm
 - Christine will have a draft of report by next Friday
 - 1-hour meeting before 2/22 (meeting with Chancellor) and the Town Hall