



University of California, Riverside
Campus Safety Task Force
Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2020, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Minutes

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

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

Guest Speaker: Matthew E. Carmichael, Chief of Police, University of Oregon Police Department

- **Guest speaker Police Chief Carmichael provided an overview of recent reforms the UO police department:**
 - There was a call from faculty, staff and students to unarm police and to defund; they had open discussions and collaborations to see how PD could look going forward.
 - The police department did a comprehensive staffing assessment
 - Looked at concepts at how to police & unarmed police; Have employed over 100 students (Security Assistants) and have CSOs (Community Service Officers)
 - At UO, call volume is high for security needs (low-moderate risk) and lower in police needs (high risk)
 - Reduced sworn staff by 25%; does not reduce budget - CSO are full-time paid staff
 - Identified calls for service and resources; made "menu" and brought to community for input.
 - Unarmed CSOs will change to more casual attire; clearly identifies them. Routine security patrol need will primarily be serviced by CSOs
 - This still does not meet the demand to "disarm police"; UO takes position that police response is still needed
 - When they started looking at reforms, looked at three models:
 - 1. Do nothing, stay the same
 - 2. Contract police service w/local agency
 - 3. Take into account staffing assessment and needs of students; Reduce sworn staff and increase CSOs
 - CSOs are "pathway" to police department for the community
 - Reforms are based on community-need, research, staffing assessment and sharing call volume
 - President of UO will bring in outside consultant to listen to the community about oversight
 - Next steps for UO: Community oversight by students/faculty/staff; Bring recommendations to Chief of Police before action is taken

- **Q&A Session with Chief Carmichael:**

How do you engage with Cahoots (mobile crisis resource)? (Christine Victorino)

-State of Oregon is severely lacking mental health resources; Cahoots fills in the gaps. When police arrive to scene of crisis, they call Cahoots. Cahoots assists person in need with mental health professionals; PD will leave and Cahoots will take over.

-UO PD uses Cahoots about 100 times per year. Only about 2 incidents (out of 100) are UO students.

-UO is looking to divert more funding to mental health services on campus e.g. student health after-hours; Would be supplemental to Cahoots

-more information about Cahoots can be found here: <https://whitebirdclinic.org/cahoots/>

What drove decision to reduce officers and hire CSOs? (Bert Wright)

-Decision was founded on being responsive to students and community; sought to find pathways to police service based on data to provide everyone with services

-Take into account 2015 report: https://cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce_finalreport.pdf

- During the current economic crisis, consider department budget; re-imagine and evolve or contract (contracting is most cost effective)

-Recommends comprehensive staffing assessment and 360 on current police model; include campus community and develop what will work for UCR

Are officers trained to know when to contact Cahoots? (Sharon Oselin)

-Officers are trained to evaluate all calls for service and apply the right resource. For example, there is a comprehensive program about how to service community members/use of force for those on the spectrum and who are POC.

-Training plan and use of force data is posted on PD website

What is composition of oversight board and how was it established? (Sharon Oselin)

In Davis, the model consisted of faculty, staff and students. Current UO advisory panel also has a union representative and a retired police officer. Recommendations come from campus departments. Oversight board also includes legal counsel.

How many other campuses have adopted similar programs? What was the deciding factor for implementation? (Judge Hernandez)

-Washington State has new "CSO" program -- Community safety responders program

-Portland State will field police officers who keep gun in station; replacing with Taser (Chief doesn't advocate for this)

-Using collaboration to find a response to systemic racism in policing; we all need to change and evolve – it is time for change and there is a need to listen to community

Why is it that the unarmed CSO are not called Police Officers who are unarmed? (Jack Clarke)

-They could be; it's about clearly identifying the resource that is providing support; it's also a safety issue -- there needs to be clear separation of CSOs/police

- **Christine Victorino provided a brief overview of next steps and draft report:**

- Christine has prepared a draft report outline using the existing recommendations on the shared drive
- The draft report is available on shared drive; Task Force Members – please review recommendations and make suggestions for edits or additional recommendations. Submit your name next to the recommendation you are interested in working on
- Each section will be delegated to a subgroup of Task Force Member volunteers
- For each recommendation, add context, best practices, and initial thoughts on implementation (2-3 paragraphs for each section provided by the subgroups)
- Aim for draft report by January
- Restorative Justice presentation has been posted for viewing on CSTF website
- A second campus town hall will be scheduled when the draft report is ready for broader feedback.

- Motion to Approve Minutes from 11/25/2020 meeting by Task Force Chair Jack Clarke; The Motion was approved by the Task Force.