

# College Council Minutes

February 24, 2021

## Present

### Staff

Shaylea Scribner  
Greg Davis  
Pat Boera  
Linda Goodrum  
Christina Erickson (chair)

### Ex-Officio

Centers of Experience – Sarah Jerger  
Marketing – Leandre Waldo  
Communications – Sandy Yusen  
Transportation – Nic Anderson  
Secretary – Wendy Duncan

### Faculty

Dave Kopec  
JoAnn Patel  
Cathy Duffy  
Jonathan Banfill  
Patti Aldredge

### Deans and President

Laurel Bongiorno  
Paula Willoquet-Maricondi  
Scott Baker  
Scott Stevens

## I. Presentation Campus Safety Issues

Bruce Bovat was invited to present his perspective on campus safety issues. Compared with other campuses, Champlain Campus Public Safety are very much more service-oriented members of the community, focused on building relationships. They have a “soft” uniform – gold shirts and khakis – and only carry radios and flashlights. On some campuses, they are more like police officers. He also remarked that Champlain students are generally very well-behaved. In response to a query about response to mental health issues, Mr. Bovat responded that it depends upon the time of day. During regular hours, they will contact counseling. However, at night, they triage the situation and will include the residential life coordinator if appropriate.

The conversation moved to campus surveillance. Mr. Bovat remarked that there are many different perspectives at play, for example liberty, privacy, and safety. However, the current generation of students is accustomed to all kinds of surveillance, so they don’t think that campus surveillance is shocking. In fact, in today’s world not having cameras is a liability.

Mr. Bovat sees surveillance cameras as a security multiplier and noted that a focus on campus security is attractive to parents and students. In fact, he has had students reach out to him to ask why we don’t have them. In comparison, UVM has 347 cameras on campus. Professional burglars say that cameras scare them away.

Linda Goodrum inquired regarding the next logical step. In response, Mr. Bovat suggested that we walk the campus, decide where cameras might be strategically placed with budget in mind. We could start with residence hall entrances to capture ingress and egress and follow with considering the main thoroughfares and entranceways into key buildings. Camera placement in classrooms is not needed – a

well-placed camera in a hallway can monitor the door of all classrooms. We could employ the services of the same company that furnished 194 St. Paul with cameras.

In response to a question about “blue phones” on campus, Mr. Bovat remarked that they are more akin to “safety theater,” and are very expensive. In fact, UVM is removing them by attrition. It might be worthwhile to survey the students at 194nSt. Paul to get their perspective on the phones. Cameras are a better strategy. Card access is also a critical safety tool because it allows Champlain to track people’s movements if necessary.

Students were not present at the meeting, so no vote on next steps was taken. It was suggested that Mr. Bovat present to the SGA. In addition, the Council requested the Mr. Bovat present a proposal in addition to relaying the reactions of the members of SGA to his presentation. Cathy Duffy volunteered to facilitate the SGA meeting.

## **II. Bylaws Subcommittee Update**

Paula Willoquet-Maricondi presented some thoughts regarding bylaws changes, including the addition of one adjunct faculty member, appointed by their union. IN addition, they propose that the conversation with the president take more of a “two-way” approach rather than just serving an advisory role. The subcommittee will take the comments provided to modify their proposal to be presented at the next council meeting.

## **III. Discuss potential for public access to meeting**

Various options for allowing public access to the College Council meetings were discussed. It was suggested that the bylaws might include a clause to allow closed meetings for certain topics, or permit the option to move to executive session in open meetings. It was decided that meeting dates would be posted on the website. Should non-members of the College Council wish to attend, they can be directed to contact the chief of staff.