

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Planning and Budget Committee
Hofstra University Senate
Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

Present: Craig Burnett, Sabrina Sobel, Elisabeth Ploran, Gioia Ciani, Sleiman Ghorayeb, Richard Apollo, Keun Lee, Nate Rigel, Geoff Tarson, Michael Sikorski, Ling Huang, Daniel Seabold, Jacqueline Cassar, Mercedes Jasterzenski, Karen O'Callaghan, Joe Barkwill

Meeting began at 11:15 am.

November

Discussion with Mercedes Jasterzenski (SGA) and Karen O'Callaghan (Public Safety)

Mercedes Jasterzenski

- Suggestions for improving public safety from students' point of view
 - o Stricter ID requirements
 - Multiple reports that IDs have not been required
 - o More night shuttles, lower capacity
 - o Improve available apps to track the shuttle
 - Kutztown University partners with Ride System
 - Temple uses TapRide
 - o Make shuttles more recognizable
 - Van for night shuttle is gray, harder to recognize
 - University of South Carolina has strobe lights and a color scheme
- Peer and Committee Concerns
 - o Diversity training for shuttle drivers
 - o Prevention/response training for violence, stalking, emergency training
 - o CPR training for drivers

Karen O'Callaghan

- Stricter IDs are enforced
 - o Some drivers know students/riders quite well
 - Not necessary to ask for ID when drivers know the rider well
- Limited ridership in each shuttle
 - o 50% capacity
 - o Only one instance where capacity has been over the maximum
 - o Should report violations to Public Safety
- Night Shuttle
 - o The van is no longer in use
 - o Only two buses running for night shuttle on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday
 - o Hesitant to change color scheme or add lights due to it being a potential nuisance to neighbors/campus residents
- App
 - o Original designer is no longer at Hofstra, needs work
 - o May need to outsource to a private company

- Diversity/Harassment Training
 - o All members of Public Safety get annual training, including bus drivers
 - Any additional training would also apply to bus drivers
- Other Training
 - o Annual training on responses to violence, etc.
 - o Three-year cycle for public safety to be emergency responders
 - Bus drivers are not subjected to this, would have to be a union matter
 - Will explore this possibility, including potential legal concerns

Discussion

- Some of these concerns were pre-pandemic, especially crowding and lack of ID checks
- For app development, the Computer Science Department may be able to help
- Are cameras in the buses? Most of the largest busses have them
- As for providing CPR training, there may be liability issues. Additionally, this may be a change of their responsibilities.
- Buses break down. This has the potential to interfere with tracking. There are processes in place for the night shuttle (not for the day shuttle). Drivers have to remember to take the GPS out of the bus/put it back in during their shifts.
- Overall assessment that Hofstra has had a successful transition
 - o Expected several issues with persons not wearing masks, that has been minimal
 - o Most issues have been with residences
 - o Quarantine process has been seamless
 - o Custodial staff has done a tremendous job
 - o Students have respected guidelines
- Will the vaccine be required?
 - o No discussions yet.
 - o Northwell has been informing the university how the vaccine will roll out
 - o Faculty/students are the last group

Move to adjourn. Seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.