

Campus Safety and Security Task Force

MINUTES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 1:30 p.m.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Angela Caddell noted that Chancellor Allison Garrett would need to join the meeting by Zoom. Caddell welcomed members Steve Turner, Northeastern State University; Chad Wiginton, Western Oklahoma State College; Ron Ramming, Connors State College; Joedon Hughes, Rose State College; Bo Hannaford, Northwestern Oklahoma State University; Keli Cain, Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security; Bill Knowles, Seminole State College; Mike Shelton, Metro Technology Centers; Monica Trevino, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma; Brandon Hill, East Central University; Devon DeBock, OSU Institute of Technology; Kevin Leach, University of Oklahoma; Scott LaPlant, Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City; Bert Miller, East Central University; Jeanette Cosby, Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services; Jeana Rae Conn, Rogers State University; Eli Zucksworth, Redlands Community College; Ryan Blanton, Oklahoma Panhandle State University; Dan Piazza and Chris Tipton, Oklahoma City Community College, Alton Jones, Eastern Oklahoma State College; and Caddell, Jarrett Jobe, Lindsay Echols and Emelia Ross, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 5, 2023 MEETING MINUTES: Caddell asked task force members to review the minutes of the April 5, 2023 meeting. The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

CASE STUDY: ACTIVE SHOOTER AT ROSE STATE COLLEGE: Joedon Hughes, senior director of campus operations at RSC, gave an overview of facts and details pertaining to the April 24 murder of a student who was shot and killed shortly after classes released around 12:15 p.m. Hughes said the assailant was not a student, but was related to another student in the class, and that the shooting was an isolated and targeted event. RSC issued a mass-text emergency notification to the campus and the incident was resolved within 3-5 minutes, with police on the scene. Hughes discussed the lessons learned, including the importance of conducting training for staff and employees, a realistic solution to send an emergency notification as quickly and seamlessly as possible, coordinating with local law enforcement to facilitate familiarity with your campus, and communicating procedures through multiple modes of delivery (e.g. email, class alerts, etc.). In reviewing outcomes, Hughes emphasized the real-time value of the “panic button” feature in the RAVE system, which immediately notified first responders and students, faculty and staff that an incident was taking place.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Jarrett Jobe, OSRHE Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, said the regular legislative session had concluded with an increase in higher education appropriations confirmed. He highlighted passage of the universal Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) bill and out-of-state authorization bills. He said that policy priorities for the next session were already under consideration.

CAMPUS EMERGENCY MANAGER CONSORTIUM UPDATE: Caddell gave the update in Sarah Kimball’s absence. She noted that the consortium was transitioning to steering committee leadership, and that a search was underway for a chair and vice chair. She said the leadership positions would be for a one-year term and encouraged members to contact Kimball if interested.

WORKGROUP REPORTS: Caddell asked for workgroup reports.

Campus Best Practices (President Steve Turner, Chair): Turner reminded everyone that this would be his final meeting since he is retiring at the end of July. Caddell thanked him for his service on the task force and in higher education. Turner emphasized use of the best practice resource repository available on the task force webpage. Caddell noted an interest in adding a segment on pandemic resources and asked members to share their best tools.

Issue Monitoring, Advocacy and Research: (President Larry Rice, Chair)
Caddell gave the report in the absence of Rice. She noted the workgroup would continue to stand ready to assist Garrett and Jobe through the special session and interim studies, as needed.

Training and Plan Development: (vacant) Caddell reminded members that this position was still vacant and asked for volunteers. She also reminded members about the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training at UCO on July 24-28. She noted that spots were limited to 30, and that while the training was free, registration was required. Caddell said CIT training will now be available to other campus safety and security personnel beyond campus law enforcement. She encouraged members to share the opportunity with their full campus safety teams.

FALL 2023 STATEWIDE SUMMIT UPDATE: Caddell told members that planning for the statewide Campus Safety and Security Summit continued. She reminded members the event was scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 7 at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond. She announced the keynote speaker is Vennie Gore from Michigan State University, who will share victories, lessons learned, and communication and policy implications of the February 13 mass shooting on the campus of MSU in East Lansing. Three students were killed and five others injured. Caddell noted session topics for the summit may include developing tabletop exercises; threat assessment; Title IX/Clery Act updates and reporting; depression/anxiety coping skills for students, faculty and staff; suicide prevention, ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences); serving neuro-diverse students, and ChatGPT/AI. She reminded members that more breakout sessions will be repeated during the summit to give attendees access to as much content as possible.

FY24 TASK FORCE MEETING DATES: Members were asked to review the meeting dates for the coming fiscal year. Caddell said a Zoom option would be available for each meeting.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Bert Miller asked members to recommend a potential speaker for a campus training focused on concerns surrounding First Amendment “auditors” on campus. Members shared experiences and ideas.

WRAP UP AND COMMENTS: Caddell thanked members for their attendance. She reminded them to share the upcoming CIT training opportunity with their campus colleagues. She said the next task force meeting would be held Sept. 13 in the conference room or via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.