

BINGHAMTON
U N I V E R S I T Y
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

MEMORANDUM

TO: JoAnn Navarro, Vice President for Operations
For distribution to:
Harvey Stenger, President
Faculty, staff, administrators and students

FROM: Personal Safety Advisory Committee
Eric Backlund, Chair

DATE: June 20, 2024

SUBJECT: 2023-2024 Report of the Personal Safety Committee (PSAC)

Following is this year's Report of the Personal Safety Advisory Committee in accordance with directives of the Board of Trustees of the State of New York.



Personal Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) **2023-2024 REPORT**

Personal Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC)
<http://www.binghamton.edu/personal-safety/index.html>

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Executive Summary

The Binghamton University Personal Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) met twice during the 2023-24 academic year, in person on December 7, 2023 and April 29, 2024.

The Committee, as part of its regular meeting agenda, reviews its charge and campus compliance with NY 129-A.

There were 33 concerns received during this year. Submissions reach the Committee primarily via an online Safety Concern Report Form, found [here on Google Forms](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GL0YzkndgZOFbuzpaTZkHA1a7ig3crrnZTNaSOaTlzc/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link) (or at this full URL: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1GL0YzkndgZOFbuzpaTZkHA1a7ig3crrnZTNaSOaTlzc/viewform?c=0&w=1&usp=mail_form_link) and a printed form distributed via Human Resources for campus constituents without access to computing equipment.

Log of Concerns and Actions

Summary

Concerns submitted to the PSAC 7/1/23 through 6/20/2024:

Category of Concern	New Concerns this period
Facilities - buildings, housekeeping, maintenance, Security - personal safety, violence prevention, building access	7
Security - personal safety, violence prevention, building access	3
Transit - vehicle/bicycle routes, stops, shelters, Pedestrian Safety (Indoor/Outdoor) - parking lots, walking paths, lighting, Security - personal safety, violence prevention, building access	2
Pedestrian Safety (Indoor/Outdoor) - parking lots, sidewalks, walking paths, lighting	19
Safety equipment, Signs, Fire Safety, Egress/Exits, AEDs	2
Total New Concerns:	33

Concerns were discussed in the Fall and Spring meetings. Those that could be addressed with corrective actions were forwarded to the corresponding office and appropriate action was or is being taken to resolve the issue.

SUNY Board of Trustees Charge to the PSAC

Policy Title: Establishment of Campus Safety Advisory Committees

Effective Date: July 1, 2004

This policy item applies to: State-Operated Campuses

Summary:

It is the policy of the State University of New York (University) to comply with legal requirements of Article 129-A of NYS Education Law §6431 (Regulation of Conduct on Campus and Other College Property Used for Educational Purposes). Accordingly, the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York has adopted written rules requiring campuses to establish campus safety advisory committees. These committees will provide advice and written reports on issues relating to personal safety on the campus as well as perform identified requirements of 20 USC §1092(f), also known as the “Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.” (See the University procedure on [Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Reporting](#) for information regarding the requirements and format for reporting official crime statistics.)

Policy:

I. Establishment of Campus Safety Advisory Committee

It is the policy of the State University of New York (University) to comply with legal requirements of Article 129-A of NYS Education Law §6431 (Regulation of Conduct on Campus and Other College Property Used for Educational Purposes). Accordingly, the Board of Trustees of the University has adopted written rules requiring campuses to establish campus safety advisory committees.

- A. Committee Composition – The committee shall consist of a minimum of six members:
 1. at least half of the committee shall be female;
 2. one-third of the committee shall be appointed from a list of students that contains at least twice the number to be appointed, which is provided by the largest student governance organization on the campus;
 3. one-third of the committee shall be appointed from a list of faculty members that contains twice the number to be appointed, which is provided by the largest faculty organization on the campus; and
 4. one-third of the committee shall be selected by the president.
- B. Committee Responsibilities - The committee shall review current campus security policies and procedures and make recommendations for their improvement. It shall specifically review current policies, plans and procedures for:
 1. educating the campus community, including security personnel and those persons who advise or supervise students, about sexual assault pursuant to [§6432 of Article 129-A of NYS Education Law](#) (connects to an external link);
 2. educating the campus community about personal safety and crime prevention;
 3. reporting sexual assaults and dealing with victims during investigations;
 4. referring complaints to appropriate authorities;
 5. counseling victims; and
 6. responding to inquiries from concerned persons.
- C. Written Annual Reporting - The committee shall report in writing, at least once (June 15) each academic year to:
 1. the campus president;
 2. the entire campus including faculty, staff, administrators and students in publications or appropriate mailing; and
 3. when requested, applicants for enrollment or employment.

This annual written report does not constitute the mandatory reporting of official crime statistics (see the University procedure on [Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Reporting](#)).

2023-2024 PSAC Committee Composition

The Personal Safety Advisory Committee is structured to align with the charge of the Trustees, including the Male/Female requirement (as per committee charge of at least 50% female).

Faculty

Colleen Hailey, *Associate Librarian, University Libraries*
Kristina Marty, *Senior Associate Dean and Professor, CCPA*
vacant

Appointed by the President

Eric Backlund, *Director, Risk Management and Compliance, Chair*
Anjelica Rowe, *Officer, Binghamton University Police*
Mike Kukawa, *Director of Operations, Physical Facilities*

Student Members

Daniel Croce - appointed 4/23
Maximilian Kurant - *appointed 4/2021, graduated 12/23*
Vacant

Ex officio Members

Renee Andrews, *Project Coordinator, Physical Facilities*
Tracey Debnar, *Assistant Director, Risk Management*

The PSAC Website

Contains safety information useful to students, staff, faculty, and visitors:

<https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/personal-safety/>

PSAC Log of Actions and Concerns

Tracks concerns as reported to the PSAC. The PSAC Log is summarized above within this report.

Binghamton University Security, Safety, Policies and Procedures

Clery Act Information

Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (The Clery Act)

As per the requirements of the Clery Act, on an annual basis all faculty and staff are informed of the website containing information about crime statistics at the University. A copy of Binghamton University's Annual Security and Fire Report is available by accessing the following website:

<https://www.binghamton.edu/student-handbook/asfr.html>.

This report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on-campus; in certain off-campus buildings or property owned or controlled by Binghamton University; and on public property within, or immediately adjacent to and accessible from, the campus.

The report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as policies concerning sexual assault, and other matters. Preparation and dissemination of the Annual Security and Fire Report is coordinated by the University's Clery Act Coordinator, with the assistance of several other offices.

Online training for employees

Online training is provided for employees including, but not limited to, Fire Safety, Hazard Communication & Right-to-Know, Preventing Discrimination and Harassment, Internal Controls, Workplace Violence Prevention & Domestic Violence in the Workplace, Title IX, and Cyber Security Awareness training.

Employee-centered reports and policies

- Clery Act reporting: <https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/human-resources/employees/policies/clery.html>
- Campus and Workplace Violence Prevention: <https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/human-resources/employees/policies/cwvp.html>
- Policy Statement on Discrimination and Harassment, Including Sexual Harassment: www.binghamton.edu/diversity-equity-inclusion/policies-and-procedures/discrimination.html
- Alcohol-Free and Drug-Free Workplace Policy. Refer to Management Procedure #629 for more information on alcohol and substance abuse in the workplace at <https://www.binghamton.edu/operations/policies/policy-629.html>
- The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) can provide information and referral assistance to faculty and staff dealing with drug or alcohol-related problems. More information can be found at: www.binghamton.edu/programs/employee-assistance/index.html. Contact may be made at eap@binghamton.edu or by campus phone at x7-6655.
- Domestic Violence in the Workplace Policy at <https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/human-resources/employees/policies/dv.html>. Refer to the contact information included within the policy.

Campus Safety Resources

- Campus Safety – General: www.binghamton.edu/about/campus-safety.html
- Emergency Management website at emergency.binghamton.edu
- Environmental Health and Safety (fire, general, lab safety):
<https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/environmental-health-safety/>
- Facilities Master Plan <https://www.binghamton.edu/facilities-management/about/facilities-master-plan.html> includes many safety features
- New York State University Police - www.binghamton.edu/police/index.html
- Off Campus Safety - Specific Measures and Activities: www.binghamton.edu/occ/safety.html
- Safe Ride and Walking Escorts: <https://www.binghamton.edu/police/about/partners-safety.html>

Emergency Alert System and Emergency Communications

There is no single communication method capable of reaching 100% of the campus community 100% of the time. To maximize the ability of reaching the largest possible percentage of people on campus, Binghamton University utilizes multiple methods of communicating emergency information. Available techniques for communicating critical information include the following methods:

- Text / electronic messaging (B-Alert system). Text messaging allows emergency messages to be sent directly to your mobile device. **This service is the only service which requires individuals to register for this service.** Emergency text messages will not be delivered to people who have not registered for this service. Registration is available to all students, staff and faculty through My Binghamton (my.binghamton.edu/) and additional information can be found here: <https://www.binghamton.edu/emergency/emergency-notification/text-alerts.html>
- Outdoor siren. Binghamton University operates an outdoor siren capable of being heard from all outdoor spaces on the Vestal campus. See Outdoor Siren procedures for additional information.
- BU Alert line (607-777-7700). Calling this number will provide a recorded message with updated information regarding all emergency incidents and weather related information for the Binghamton University campus.
- Electronic LED message boards & TV Screens. The university manages a series of electronic message boards and TV screens that are placed at various locations throughout the campus. Common locations for these types of signs include the entrances to campus as well as dining facilities. These boards may be programmed to display emergency messages whenever necessary.
- Campus voice mail. All university-owned hard wired phones are capable of receiving voicemail messages. During an emergency incident, a recorded message containing critical information can be distributed to all campus phones.
- University web page. The university web page (www.binghamton.edu) is the official site of Binghamton University. This page will contain important information regarding critical incidents.

- o University cable channel 42. On campus televisions may tune to cable channel 42 to receive important information during emergency events.
- o University e-mail listservs (i.e. [B-Line](#) and [Dateline](#)). The university manages several listservs that may be utilized during emergency incidents. B-Line is the official listserv for students and Dateline is the official listserv for staff and faculty. The listservs may be utilized to provide updates and critical information during emergency situations.
- o Campus & local television and radio. Binghamton University will continue to work with traditional media outlets to distribute information regarding emergency events and weather cancellations.
- o Mobile public address systems (vehicle mounted). Emergency vehicles on the Binghamton University campus are equipped with public address systems which may be utilized to convey emergency messages when other methods may not be available or appropriate.
- o Social media. Follow Binghamton University to stay up-to-date on all things Binghamton:
 - o [Facebook](#)
 - o [Twitter](#)
 - o [Instagram](#)

Please see the [Binghamton University Emergency Alert Policies and Procedures \(https://www.binghamton.edu/emergency/emergency-notification/policies.html\)](https://www.binghamton.edu/emergency/emergency-notification/policies.html) document for details regarding the use of these emergency communication methods.

Other Safety Initiatives

Tied to this are two annual surveys, the Risk Assessment Survey, which is intended to solicit workplace safety concerns and input from department heads and the All-Employee Workplace Violence Survey, intended to solicit workplace safety concerns and input from ALL Employees.

University Committees/Groups/Departments that Address Safety Issues on Campus

- Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Office (ATOD) - <https://www.binghamton.edu/hpps/atod/index.html>
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - <https://www.binghamton.edu/diversity-equity-inclusion/>
- Domestic Violence in the Workplace Policy – <https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/human-resources/employees/policies/dv.html>
- Environmental Health and Safety (fire, general, lab safety) - <https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/environmental-health-safety/>
- Fraternity and Sorority Life - <https://www.binghamton.edu/organizations/fraternity-and-sorority-life/>
- Harpur's Ferry - <https://harpursferry.org/>
- ISSS - <https://www.binghamton.edu/international/student-scholar-services/>
- MultiCultural Resource Center - <https://www.binghamton.edu/centers/mrc/index.html>
- New York State University Police - www.binghamton.edu/police/
- Off Campus College (OCC) - www.binghamton.edu/occ/safety.html
- Office of Student Conduct - www.binghamton.edu/student-conduct/
- Ombudsman - www.binghamton.edu/offices/ombudsman/

- Personal Safety Advisory Committee - <https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/personal-safety/>
- Residential Life - www.binghamton.edu/residential-life/
- Student of Concern Committee - <https://www.binghamton.edu/student-affairs/support/index.html#soc>
- Title IX - <https://www.binghamton.edu/services/title-ix/>
- Violence, Abuse and Rape Crisis Center - <https://www.binghamton.edu/centers/varcc/index.html>
- Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies - www.binghamton.edu/wgss/
- Workplace Violence Policy and Program - <https://www.binghamton.edu/offices/human-resources/employees/policies/cwvp.html>

Student Association chartered student groups related to safety concerns

- Peace in Action: peaceinaction.wordpress.com/
- Powerful Unite Ladies Striving to Elevate (PULSE): [issuu.com/p.u.l.s.e.](http://issuu.com/p.u.l.s.e)
- SHADES (trying to create a safer campus): bengaged.binghamton.edu/shades/home/
- Women's Student Union: bengaged.binghamton.edu/wsu/home/