

Safety Audit Sub-Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

2:00 pm – 4:00pm

857 Kaneff Tower

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Minutes

In Attendance: Anne Moore (Chair), Melissa Belisle, Mikhaela Gray, Elana Shugar

Regrets: Prakash Amarasooriya, Roxana Jahani Aval, Rina Brandt, Robert Castle, Rachele Clemente, Norma Sue Fisher, Asal Kazemi, Dimitra Markatas, Mithilen Mathipalan, Katherine Newman, Dragan Spasojevic, Sunil Taneja, Lara Yehia

Chair's Welcome

Chair Anne Moore welcomed those in attendance to the second Safety Audit Sub-Committee Meeting of the academic year.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Chair Anne Moore motioned to approve the meeting minutes of November 20th, 2014. The motion was carried and the minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

Business Arising from the Meeting Minutes

Maureen will be invited to attend the next Safety Audit Sub-Committee meeting at the end of March.

METRAC Recommendations Selected for Review (E. Shugar)

A questionnaire is being developed and it will be sent to community members in fall 2015. The purpose of the survey is to collect data on the community's awareness of safety programs and services in order to evaluate the METRAC's impact on the University. It was suggested that focus groups on safety be established to solicit qualitative data on safety from community members.

The status of a recommendation informs community members of the progress made on the recommendation during the METRAC. Some recommendations were not appropriate for the York University community and therefore they were not pursued. Elana Shugar will circulate recommendations with unclear statuses to the Committee for their comment and review prior to the next meeting.

There was discussion regarding the recommendations that involved educating community members, information sharing and training. The Committee acknowledges that it is important to identify opportunities for faculty members to share the safety programs and services that the University offers within classrooms.

A progress report of METRAC implementation will be available at the end of the 2014-2015 academic year. A final report may be issued following the climate survey. This report will inform readers of the progress made on recommendations and how the status of recommendation is to be interpreted. It was suggested that a chart be included in the final report which would identify the progress made of each recommendation.

The group engaged in discussion on what will happen after the METRAC is complete. The METRAC is a tool used to help build a safer community. Safety is ongoing and the work to improve campus safety will not end when the audit is complete in June 2015.

Equity Statement Update

Anne Moore will provide a list of answers to the questions that the President provided in response to the equity statement at the next meeting.

Announcements

On February 20, the Ontario Committee on Student Affairs hosted a conference at York University which will focus on sexual assault prevention. Students, faculty and staff members from all Ontario universities were present.

On February 23, the Board of Governors of York University approved a policy on awareness, prevention and response to sexual assault, affirming the institution's ongoing commitment to foster a culture where its impact is understood, survivors are supported, and those who commit incidents of sexual assault are held accountable through due process. The policy was circulated to Committee members.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place at the end of March. Maureen Armstrong, University Secretary and General Counsel, will be invited to attend. A meeting will be scheduled in April to discuss survey questions to be included in the METRAC follow-up questionnaire.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.