

## Meeting Notes

<b>Meeting</b>	CSC Student Committee – General Meeting
<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	June 24, 2013 @ 2:30 PM
<b>Location</b>	901 YRT
<b>Attendance</b>	Toby Mayer, Matthew Harris, Elize Ceschia, Prakash Amarasooriya, Michelle Smith, Habib-Ali Jaffer, Salvatore Loiero, Safiyah Husein, Jessica Thyriar, Elana Shugar, Brandon Vieira, Victoria Barnett

The group was divided into 2 smaller groups. The exercise was to develop a team agreement, assign a note-taker and share thoughts on the following questions: (1) Where do you feel safe on campus? And (2) Where do you not feel safe on campus?

Time was left at the end to engage in conversation and share ideas on how we can help make the campus safer.

### Discussion Points:

#### 1) Team Agreement – content examples

- Confidentiality
- Use “I”
- No interrupting
- Listen
- Respectful
- Appreciating the fact that people have different experiences
- Agree to disagree
- Frame opinions nicely
- No judging of opinions
- Raise hand to show interest in sharing
- Freedom to share
- Facilitator/speaker can ensure everyone gets a voice

#### 2) One Group developed a definition of “safe” to help guide discussion. Their definition included:

- A sense of personal security
- Can express your identify without being attacked
- Where no form of discrimination or violence is tolerated
- Where differences are accepted
- Where you are not in constant fear
- Where there is someone you can talk to
- Where you can trust in an appropriate intervention

### 3) Where do you feel safe on campus?

- TBLGAY
- SASSL
- YFS
- Campus Service Group offices
- OPIRG
- Single stall bathrooms
- Visibility of York Security
- Increased walking presence of both York Security and TPS
- Lighting tours (further promotion is needed)
- goSAFE
- Being surrounded by people -- would want those people to be accountable, trustworthy community
- Bus loop/Vari Hall/Student Centre viewed as safer because of people, lighting, security is more visible
- Elevators and camera in more areas would be nice
- Like that York is open about issues and happening on campus
- Good at being timely in reporting
- Share preventative measures
- Updates on cases show that York is addressing issues and cares for the community
- Shows there are repercussion for actions

### 4) Where do you not feel safe on campus?

- Multiple stall washrooms
- Bus stop (YRT/ZUM)
- Walking from the village
- Non-peak time at the bus stops -- less traffic
- When police are present on campus (\*\*need to build on the relationship\*\*)
- Where there are ongoing systemic forms of discrimination
- Anywhere discrimination comments are made
  - Online model social media – ( can we do something to notify York when comments are made on these forums – think Humber story – )
- Assiniboine Apartments
- The Village
- Parking lots – cameras & lighting needed
- Walking on the perimeter of campus
- Going home at night
- Perhaps Parking Officials could help with campus safety – see them more than just ticketing agents
- Scott religious Centre
- Ross Podium
- Areas where there is less lighting
- Areas where cameras are not visible
- Create spaces to address areas where there are issues
- Computer/study areas
- Resource awareness needs to be increased; Students want assistance finding resources
- Staff need to me made more aware of services
- find like-mind people to share information
- **Make it easy to answer the question – “who do I call/email/see regarding...”**

## 5) Open Discussion - How can we address these concerns?

- Equity statement on syllabus
  - Reviewed during academic orientation, includes where to report
- Creation of visible safe space mandates
- Gender based violence is a big issue
- Power/privilege struggle with student / prof.
- Providing safety resources
- Information to report incidences in the classroom
- Talk about the campus service groups in the beginning of the year
- Equity course
- Access to anti-oppression training; University made anti-oppression training
- More opportunities to learn about different identities ( respectful approachable ways)
- Continuous approaches to outreach for safety
- Paying for our facilitators
- Talking about the community we live in
- More open to work with surrounding communities
- Getting people to come out; Advertising is an issue
- Proactive approach to issues regarding systemic issues
- Sexual assault policy
- Single stall bathrooms are good
- Response to issues that arise over social media
- Administration needs to show some language is not allowed or tolerated – ism's phobia's
- Stereotypes of our location needs to be addressed
- Explain why York reports as openly as it does
- TPS should be educated/informed of York's Values; encourage better relations with students and TPS
- How can York "show it is not as bad as other institutions" – stats comparison, when & where it is used
- Move to have institutions report their stats on gender based violence
- Diversify the Security Officials to represent the York community
- Use groups on campus to share – could use those funds more wisely
- Make positive bulletins – sent out monthly
- Fix the safety website to be more interactive
- Increase the responsibilities of goSAFE
  - diversify their team, mainly male, pairs must be 1 male and 1 female