

Campus Safety & Wellness Committee Meeting

March 9, 2023, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM, Searle Hall

Agenda and Meeting Summary

1. Welcome

- Committee Co-chairs Mona Dugo, Dean of Students and Assistant Vice President of Wellness, and Bruce A. Lewis, Chief of Police and Senior Associate Vice President of Safety & Security, welcomed the 22 attendees, who are focused on safety and wellness matters at Northwestern.
- Bruce Lewis spoke about all that has happened in the past 3 months since the Committee's first meeting on Dec. 1, 2022: the shootings at Michigan State University, senseless brutality of police in Memphis, a Chicago Police Department officer killed, and a Temple University police officer killed during a carjacking. Bruce also spoke about the increased presence of those experiencing homelessness on NU's campuses and how NU Police and our colleagues respond with dignity and respect and with better-informed policies and practices.

2. Introductions

- Attendees introduced themselves.

3. Update on Trilogy

- Mona Dugo spoke about Trilogy, a nonprofit with a mobile team of trained counselors who respond in person to mental health crises. Trilogy serves the Evanston area but not Streeterville, where our Chicago campus is located. Trilogy is often called in by Evanston Police Department or through the 988 number. Bruce Lewis, Mona Dugo, Garrett Gilmer, and Carlos Gonzalez plan to meet with Trilogy for coordination.

4. Recruiting of Director of Behavioral Consultation Programs and Campus Alternative Response Team:

- Jill Johnson with Safety & Security outlined the position responsibilities for the new Director of Behavioral Consultation Programs, who will not only lead the Behavioral Consultation Team, but also lead and operationalize a new team of in-person, after-hours support for students experiencing a mental health crisis, called Campus Alternative Response Team (CART). The BCP director position has been designed in consultation with national expert Dr. Gene Deisinger, has been posted for a few months, and the resumes are currently being screened. Two out of the four CART counselor positions have also been posted.

5. South Campus Recent Events:

- Eric Chin, Deputy Chief of Police, spoke about how the number of incidents on campus involving those experiencing homelessness has increased dramatically, emphasizing that there are only about 3 people causing the issues, for example in Kresge and Crowe. Eric

talked about our strategies planned for now and future, including Trilogy, unarmed staff members and contract security, and also police officers trained in mental health issues and de-escalation.

6. Facilities Incident Work Group

- Mark Francis, Office of the Provost, spoke about how the South Campus events inspired the Facilities Incident Work Group to be formed to coordinate response and communications. Mark stated that the new Facilities Incident Work Group works collaboratively with the Behavioral Consultation Team, the Crisis Management Group, and the Threat Assessment Group.

7. Update on Fallen Tree

- Chris Yohe with Environmental Health & Safety spoke of the dangerous situation during an icy and windy snowstorm after a large tree fell near Jacobs Center, striking several pedestrians and also damaging another tree near power lines. An OSHA report was filed and was accepted.
- Jim McKinney with Facilities stated that, immediately after the tree fell, an arborist was called in to evaluate the 5,000 trees on the Evanston campus. Six trees were proactively taken down out of an abundance of caution, and they will be replanted. OGMC sent out an emergency alert about the situation and the danger.

8. Around the table

- The committee members each gave a brief update about matters of safety and wellness impacting their areas.

9. Next meeting

- Date to be determined, likely in late September 2023.