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Task Force for Campus Impementation of HB 280

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Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280

Submitted by: Michelle Haberland

9/29/2017

Question(s):

What is the specific charge of the Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280 that was announced on June 9th?

Does the Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280 meet regularly?

How many times has the task force met since it was formed?

Are the minutes of their meetings reported to the President's Cabinet and the Faculty Senate and the university community at large?

Have students and faculty been included in the meetings of the Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280?

Why has no one responded to email inquiries via the university's Campus Carry Information website (<http://bf.georgiasouthern.edu/publicsafety/campus-carry-information/>)?

Please provide our university community with an update on the activities of the task force.

Rationale:

In the in the President's Report section of the minutes of the June 2017 Faculty Senate meeting, it was announced that "GSU was forming a task force with faculty, Staff Council, and student representation, along with Facilities, Law Enforcement, and Public Safety to develop local implementation procedures within those guidelines and to work on other issues related to campus carry." In the June 9th email announcing the formation of the Task Force for Campus Implementation of Campus Carry, members of the university community were instructed to, "Please continue to send any questions you may have through the appropriate channels so that we may provide them to the USG legal team." Is the email address on the Campus Carry Information website considered an "appropriate channel?" I have sent three email messages (July 25th, August 3rd, August 9th) to the email address listed on the website and I have not, as

of September 29th, received a single confirmation that my messages have been received, let alone my questions answered. I have corresponded with two members of the committee who were unable to answer most of the questions above.

Response:

Minutes 10-16-2017

RFI: Taskforce for Campus Implementation of HB 280 There were two RFIs. One from Michelle Haberland had questions about the Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280, which is the campus carry law; the response had been posted.

Michelle Haberland (CLASS) noted she had received the official response but “also Maura Copeland kindly responded to my July 25th, August 3rd, August 9th, and August 31st emails.” She directed a further question to President Hebert, one she had asked of the Campus Carry Implementation Committee, but to which she received no response: Other campuses in USG had held informational forums to give guidance and in which questions could be asked, and she wanted to know why we had not done so. She also wanted to know what our overall approach to this new law was because, given her difficulties in getting any questions answered by anybody, it seemed to be “just stop talking about it and we'll pretend like it's not happening.”

President Hebert said we sought guidance from the University System of Georgia on how to implement the new law on campus, and how to share information, and what we were told was to refer everyone to the information page of the USG. And that's what we did. We didn't have a forum because we couldn't provide any information beyond that.

10/11/2017:

From Maura Copeland:

RFI: Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280

What is the specific charge of the Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280 that was announced on June 9th?

The charge for this task force was to provide guidance for implementation of House Bill 280 on the Georgia Southern University campus with regard to the change in law that became effective on July 1, 2017.

Does the Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280 meet regularly?

No. The new law took effect on July 1, 2017 and the task force has completed its task.

How many times has the task force met since it was formed?

The task force met one time, on June 21, 2017.

Are the minutes of their meetings reported to the President's Cabinet and the Faculty Senate and the university community at large?

No minutes are kept. Instead, the task force recommended creation of the web page available at <http://bf.georgiasouthern.edu/publicsafety/campus-carry-information/> to disseminate available information widely to campus.

Have students and faculty been included in the meetings of the Task Force for Campus Implementation of HB 280?

The task force membership included student and faculty representation, specifically, the SGA President and the Faculty Senate Moderator.

Why has no one responded to email inquiries via the university's Campus Carry Information website?

Good question—thank you for bringing this to our attention. We were unaware that messages were not coming through. I put in a ticket with IT to explore the problem. IT has isolated the issue and is working on resolving it. I expect this to be resolved momentarily. In the meantime, pressing questions may be directed to the Associate Vice President for Legal Affairs at mconley@georgiasouthern.edu or the Chief of Police at lmccullough@georgiasouthern.edu .

Please provide our university community with an update on the activities of the taskforce.

The task force was formed for the limited purpose of making recommendations surrounding the July 1, 2017 implementation of changes to the campus carry law. Once those changes were implemented, this task force's initiative was complete. Responsibility for maintaining the web page recommended by the task force lies with the Office of Public Safety, which has continued to update the page after July 1 with newly-available information, including a video outlining the changes. The University System of Georgia has also continued to update its FAQ (linked from the web page cited above) as new information becomes available. As always, members of the University community may reach out to the Office of Legal Affairs or the Office of Public Safety with additional questions.