

Georgia Southern University

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

Faculty Senate Index

Faculty Senate

2-16-2018

Campus Security During a Shooting

Robert Costomiris

Georgia Southern University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/faculty-senate-index>



Part of the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Costomiris, Robert, "Campus Security During a Shooting" (2018). *Faculty Senate Index*. 640.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/faculty-senate-index/640>

This request for information is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Index by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.

Campus Security During a Shooting

Submitted by: Robert Costomiris

2/16/2018

Question(s):

1) What measures are in place to alert the campus community of a shooting on campus?

The University utilizes several modes of communication through its mass notification system, they include: Email, text, phone, university digital signage, and computer monitors. In addition to the mass notification system, the university utilizes social media and its website to provide information.

2) What kinds of notices, posters, web-pages, informational videos, etc have been offered to inform students, staff and faculty of what to do in the event of a shooting on campus?

The University's Office of Public Safety provides information through its website and social media, to include an informative video and slideshow.

In addition, the Office of Public Safety provides a seminar each month, which is open to all faculty, staff, and students. This seminar is a comprehensive, one-hour lecture and slideshow. The seminar is also provided upon request to any university department, organization, or association.

3) What training has been offered to prepare the campus community to respond to possible gun violence on campus? If none, why not? If some, how many members of the campus community have received such training?

The Active Shooter seminar is offered monthly and upon request, to prepare the campus community. Seminar attendance is recorded and retained in the Office of Public Safety Crime Prevention.

The Office of Public Safety also provides a security assessment upon request. This assessment is conducted in collaboration with the requesting department or facility staff. It includes a walk thru of the facility, recommendations for surveillance systems, panic alarms, locks, evacuation procedures, and general crime prevention information.

The Armstrong campus is equipped with door locking mechanisms, faculty and staff on that campus have been trained on the mechanism, and information about the mechanism has been provided on the Armstrong website.

4) What system redundancies are in place to ensure that alerts reach the entire campus community if one alert system fails to reach its intended audience?

The Office of Public Safety is equipped with vehicle public address systems. The office is exploring other systems that can be employed as an alternate or secondary line of communication throughout the campuses.

Rationale:

Campus Shootings are a weekly occurrence in the US, yet not a single faculty member I have spoken to knows what to do during a shooting. This could be disastrous.

Response:

1) What measures are in place to alert the campus community of a shooting on campus?

The University utilizes several modes of communication through its mass notification system, they include: Email, text, phone, university digital signage, and computer monitors. In addition to the mass notification system, the university utilizes social media and its website to provide information.

2) What kinds of notices, posters, web-pages, informational videos, etc have been offered to inform students, staff and faculty of what to do in the event of a shooting on campus?

The University's Office of Public Safety provides information through its website and social media, to include an informative video and slideshow.

In addition, the Office of Public Safety provides a seminar each month, which is open to all faculty, staff, and students. This seminar is a comprehensive, one-hour lecture and slideshow. The seminar is also provided upon request to any university department, organization, or association.

3) What training has been offered to prepare the campus community to respond to possible gun violence on campus? If none, why not? If some, how many members of the campus community have received such training?

The Active Shooter seminar is offered monthly and upon request, to prepare the campus community. Seminar attendance is recorded and retained in the Office of Public Safety Crime Prevention.

The Office of Public Safety also provides a security assessment upon request. This assessment is conducted in collaboration with the requesting department or facility staff. It includes a walk thru of the facility, recommendations for surveillance systems, panic alarms, locks, evacuation procedures, and general crime prevention information.

The Armstrong campus is equipped with door locking mechanisms, faculty and staff on that campus have been trained on the mechanism, and information about the mechanism has been provided on the Armstrong website.

4) What system redundancies are in place to ensure that alerts reach the entire campus community if one alert system fails to reach its intended audience?

The Office of Public Safety is equipped with vehicle public address systems. The office is exploring other systems that can be employed as an alternate or secondary line of communication throughout the campuses.

Minutes: 3/6/2018

d. RFI on Campus Security During a Shooting

This had received a reply. Robert Costomiris (CAH), who had submitted the RFI, noted that among the questions he had asked was one about system redundancies, the answer to which was essentially, "We're looking into it." It didn't say what they were looking into, though. He believed any safety plan should have multiple redundancies, or it's not safe. He was curious about what they're looking into.

Robert Whitaker (Vice President Finance and Operations) thought he had just heard Costomiris say he'd be willing to sit on the committee that's going to do that analysis and review. He noted, though, that they had asked the University Police Department as well as our Emergency Planning Group to go back and look at all options. One was a voice mechanism around all our campuses, basically loudspeakers, to notify campus of anything that may be happening. They're working on all the different options, costs, how we would implement them, how we would install, etc. Once they have a full whitepaper type of proposal, that will be shared with the President and his leadership.

Michelle Haberland (CAH) noted that the response to the RFI stated that the Armstrong campus is equipped with door-locking mechanisms, faculty and staff on that campus have been trained on the mechanisms, and information about this locking mechanism

has been provided on the Armstrong website. She asked if there are plans to make that more equal across the three campuses.

VP Whitaker said the review group is looking at that. It's going to be costly and take time because right now, on the Statesboro campus, we do not have any of those locking mechanisms. It would be a phase approach. Basically, the mechanism is a flip that allows you to lock your door once you are inside your classroom.