

Faculty Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2009
SEM II A1105 - 1:00 – 3:00pm

Meeting called to order – 1:15pm, Terry Setter (Faculty Chair)

Announcements:

- Hirsh Diamant – Wished everyone a Happy Lunar New Year and invited everyone to join in a celebration of Chinese Lunar New Year of the OX, with Master Huang presenting, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, January 23-25. Brochures were made available for those who are interested.
- Students from the Divestment and Boycott Committee explained that the Evergreen Foundation invests through the University of Washington. The committee is working on two campaigns right now and seeking signatures for petitions they are circulating against Gaza occupation by Israel and the end to Israel's apartheid. There is a Divestment Committee Meeting today, Wednesday, at 4:00pm in the Library Underground.
- Faculty Hiring – Nancy Murray, Hiring Dean announced that the British Literature, Social Science EWS, Creative Writing, Sustainable Agriculture, Sustainable Design and Experimental Media hires will not be moving forward this year. The Geology, MED Math, and the four one-time-hires will proceed.
- Council of Faculty Representatives – are working on a bill to add a faculty member to the board of trustees at each institution.

Geoduck Student Union

Josie Jarvis reported that the GSU website is up and running at <http://wikis.evergreen.edu/geoduckunion>. The GSU is working hard on getting students involved in campus governance. The GSU is promoting drives to help homeless shelters, *recyclamania* and flood relief efforts. They are also lobbying to cap tuition increases. GSU is also concerned about student email account changes. Josie announced there will be a student forum regarding the Active Shooter Response proposal in the HCC from 7-9pm on January 20.

Collective Bargaining:

The following sections of the new agreement were reviewed:

Article 6 – Professional Responsibilities

Article 8 – Regular Faculty Reappointment and Conversion

Article 2 – Share Governance

Discussion followed, with questions raised about compensation for adjuncts who do governance work (it was stated that adjuncts will no longer be paid for governance work); and the distinction between governance and professional involvement (which the Agenda Committee is still charged with determining).

Resolution in Support of Disability Community at Evergreen

Jules Unsel, joined by other ADA Advisory Committee members, provided a history of the ADA Advisory Committee which was charged many years ago but languished for many years until 2007. Jules indicated that the physical aspects of the College are, for the most part, accessible and that more students with disabilities are attending Evergreen each year. Jules further indicated that there are things all community members can do to support and increase awareness of students with disabilities such as use Access Services when accommodations are requested, or when planning events. A Resolution in Support of the Disability Community at Evergreen, written by members of the 2008 summer institute for Disability & Diversity, was presented and briefly

discussed. A friendly amendment to page three, at the end of the first paragraph following “We also resolve:” to read, “in collaboration with the Access Services director” was proposed, seconded and accepted. The resolution passed with 47-yes, 0- no, 5-abstentions.

Active Shooter Response: Patrol Rifle Proposal

Reading materials in support of the proposal: www.evergreen.edu/policeservices/responseproposal.htm

Ed Sorger, Police Chief, Tim Marcus, PSCRB Chair, Tim Marron, Police Sergeant and Dave Johnson, Thurston County Sheriff’s Deputy and SWAT leader.

Ed Sorger introduced the discussion by indicating that Art Costantino, Vice President for Student Affairs, asked the PSCRB to gather and consider feedback from the community in response to the request to purchase rifles, armor and training to respond to an active shooter on the campus. Ed indicated he is concerned for campus safety and adequate police response in the event a shooter came onto our campus. Last year, in March 2008, the Washington State Legislature passed the Substitute Senate “Campus Safety Enhancement” Bill 6328 in response to the recent campus shootings. This bill directed all six, four-year public institutions of higher education in Washington to complete a self-study regarding their current ability to respond to emergencies by filling out and responding to a questionnaire. During the course of the self-studies and collaborations with the five other state institutions, it became clear that Evergreen was the only institution that has not equipped their officers with patrol rifles and provided them with annual, rifle-based active shooter training. He suggested that the right vests, rifles and helmets are needed to respond to a dangerous event where someone threatens another person in our community. He further suggested that if, instead of equipping Evergreen officers to respond, we call in Thurston County, the State Patrol or Olympia Police Department, we have no say in how they choose to respond. If we equip and train our own officers, the campus can be involved in the policies and procedures around this issue.

Tim Marron indicated that 17% of officer shootings with pistols or shotguns actually hit the subject they are aiming for. Arming and training our own patrol officers with rifles and vests gives them the means to go in and confront the shooter(s). He suggested that waiting for outside agency response can take 20 minutes to 1½ hours when Evergreen can respond to any building on campus within 2 minutes. Tim indicated that pistol bullets are hazardous to bystanders because they are only meant to be accurate within a 15 foot range, where AR15 standard rifles are designed to shoot at a much further range. He suggested that most shooters are armed with a rifle. The proposal requests the purchase of 3 rifles for \$4,500, body guard equipment for \$2,000, and training for \$3,500 plus car mounts. The proposal further indicates that two of the rifles would be stored in police cars (secured and somewhat concealed), with the 3rd rifle secured in a safe in the office. He indicated the rifles would only be used according to approved policy, which is in draft form right now.

Dave Johnson indicated that response time is an issue with one deputy on duty for the 220 square miles in the Evergreen area. The Thurston County officers have the training, rifles and equipment to respond to an active shooter event and try to respond within 20 minutes to calls for assistance. Most officers don’t know the campus and communication is an issue. It takes 45-60 minutes to assemble a SWAT team.

Discussion, comments and questions included:

- It was stated that Evergreen has only had one active shooter, in 1984, who was stopped by unarmed personnel. Additional questions were raised regarding the risk assessment and probability of an incident occurring at Evergreen.
- It was asked whether alternate solutions have been considered.
- It was stated that \$10,000 is a lot of money give the pending budget cuts.
- A concern was raised regarding officer access to pistols given it was stated that they are not accurate.
- Information was requested regarding what staff, faculty and students should do in the event of an active shooter.

- It was questioned whether rifles would make a difference in outcome and a sense that even a two minute response time would not have saved anyone at the shootings at Virginia Tech and Columbine.
- Questions about racial profiling were raised (it was responded that the copwatch website has statistics) Michael Vavrus, who is a faculty representative on the Police Service Community Review Board, closed the discussion by stating that he appreciated the clarity of the information presented, which he has sought for some time. He further suggested it is unfair to label the campus as unsafe.

Meeting Adjourned – 3:05pm

Next Meeting – Wednesday, January 28, 2009, 1:00-3:00pm in SEM II A1105