UO Policing Implementation Advisory Group
June 27, 2012

In attendance: Johnny Earl, Mike Eyster, Tom Hart, Carolyn McDermed, Kelly McIver, Jamie Moffitt, Mike Russo, Brian Smith, Rob Thallon, Randy Wardlow

Jamie Moffitt – Leadership change
Jamie has asked Carolyn McDermed to step into the role of interim Chief and interim Director of the Department of Public Safety. Doug Tripp has decided to pursue employment opportunities in the mid-west so that he can be closer to family. His leaving is not a reflection on the department or its transition and he will continue in an advisory role to Jamie until he does find another opportunity. A national search for a permanent police chief will be underway soon.

Jamie highlighted two communication goals regarding transition planning. One goal is to educate the campus community on the critical information, facts, plans/timeline, documents and statistics related to the transition. The other goal is providing ample opportunities for the campus to engage in dialogue with leadership, particularly concerning the issue of arming.

Carolyn McDermed – Department of Public Safety Updates
Two officers are currently at the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Academy, about half way through their training. One more officer will begin at the academy in July. Another officer will soon write an exam for re-certification. Uniformed personnel received search and seizure training. Managers have also received additional training. One public safety officer will be graduating from the reserve police academy this Thursday.

For the Olympic trials, the department worked more closely with the Eugene Police Department (EPD) and had much more involvement with planning than for the 2008 Trials. There has not been a noted increase in crimes during the 2012 Olympic Track & Field Trials. The UO Police Department and EPD worked to make people aware of the types of crimes expected and how they could help prevent them.

Campus continuity with coverage for other events (Oregon Bach Festival, summer classes beginning, etc.) is going well.

The policies writing project is continuing. There are about 500 pages currently; these will be reviewed before adoption. The policies are being written to industry standards and adapted to the University setting. Carolyn explained that all policies except those with tactical components, that would compromise officer safety if made public, will be available online. All officers will be trained according to the scope of their duties and certification.
Discussion - Transition Timeline

Jamie Moffitt reviewed the transition timeline. It is broken down into quarters, this summer more detailed transition planning will be occurring. The advisory group should outline points to communicate to the community and the best way to present the information.

Throughout the fall and winter terms educational information should be shared and dialogue sessions with campus groups should take place. In spring 2013 leadership will make its decision regarding arming campus police officers.

Kelly McIver will develop draft communication documents for the next meeting. Important themes to be included that emerged from the discussion are listed below:

Providing information to the campus & community-at-large

- Clarification of services provided by armed police officers vs. unarmed officers
- What new policies have been published and how these affect training, infrastructure, resources, etc.
- Current statistics
  - Provide number and type of crimes that occur on campus
  - Present statistics over the course of one year, or one average week
  - Communicate that most incidents involving campus police are with non-university individuals
- Address the perception that an armed police force would result in loss of freedoms
- Strike a balance between providing campus crime facts, but not alarm people who may perceive university campuses as bubbles within the larger community immune to criminal activity.
- The importance of response time to be highlighted
- Comparisons between the UO and other universities our size that have campus police departments
- Communication with the larger community necessary, specifically neighborhoods that surround the campus or have large student concentration
- Stress that transition is still on track even with leadership change

Jamie has reached out to ASUO President for the upcoming academic year to figure out the best way to get student engagement on these issues and also to appoint new student representatives to the advisory group.

Carolyn clarified that officers only go off-campus to conduct investigations. Officers are by university policy not allowed to do other work off-campus. Changing this may be explored later and would require an intergovernmental agreement between the university and the city.

A question came up about the stance of the advisory group on the issue of arming. Jamie responded that the purpose of the group is to act as a sounding board of ideas.
surrounding issues of the transition as opposed to an advocacy group for either case. Furthermore, the group acts in an advisory capacity to Jamie and the President.