



**Elizabethtown College  
Student Senate  
Minutes – November 10, 2011**

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The meeting was called to order by **Frantz** at 3:45 p.m.

Roll call

**Discussion on Campus Safety**

- **Calenda:** I asked for a little time today to open the discussion to safety and security on campus. We've had a few incidents related to assault and I wanted to make sure all of your questions and concerns are addressed. So, I wanted to open it up to questions first. We can respond to those and maybe fill in some of the gaps as to what occurred and what steps the college will be taking. **Preivity:** As a first year, this is a surprise to me. Has this happened as much as in the past? I think it's been 4 or 5 times that we've gotten a notification. **Calenda:** We have had other incidents, but the reason you're hearing about this is that whenever the college believes there's a concern for the students we must issue a timely warning. We may have had more in the past, but it didn't present a warning. We wanted to be sure you were aware of the incidents so you could have a greater awareness of the incidents and provide reminders for personal safety. Are there other questions? **Frantz:** Could we go into some of the things the college is doing about it? **Calenda:** I'm going to call on Dale Boyer for that one. **Boyer:** The first incident that really came to attention was a student reporting an individual on Alpha Drive who was in a car. He drove up and was undressed from the waist down fondling himself and made comments. She called security to report it and we sent out the timely warning. Another student came in to report a similar encounter at the Brown lot; we did have a camera so we were able to get some information and a picture of the vehicle. They did observe a car that matched the description and get a license plate. He was arrested and did confess and has been charged. The second incident involved a female student walking to the Hackman apartments on a cell phone. When she got there, a stranger grabbed her/groped her. She was able to get in contact with her boyfriend. The assailant started to run off and the male student ran him down, tackled him, and held him while Campus Security and the borough police arrived. He was charged and I believe is in juvenile detention. Both cases were juveniles. The most recent case involved a female student walking to the quads. She diverged from the main pathway and was walking on a shortcut. She heard rustling and was assaulted. He grabbed her and she fended him off using some self defense techniques. She got away and to the quads where she got help. The individual has not been found. The basic description is male and husky, wearing a hoodie and maybe wearing gloves. At this time those are the incidents and we're actively involved with the borough police now until more evidence turns up. We don't have any strong leads, but we're taking measures to raise awareness and hopefully make for a safer campus. **Moore:** Has anything been discussed about adding lights down by the quads? It's somewhat dark. **Boyer:** The approved actual walkway is lit. From what I understand from director of facilities, overall the lighting on campus does meet international lighting standards. So, there are probably no plans for putting more in. We want to stress that you don't want to create an opportunity for something to happen. If at all possible, female students shouldn't walk alone. If you're going somewhere after dark, have someone go with you. Walk on well lit walkways for the sake of safety. Take a little extra time and stay in a well-lit place. **Clemens:** I think an idea would be to notify the people at the location you are going to that you will be there soon and if you aren't, it would alert them that something may be wrong. **Calenda:** Does anyone else have a good plan? If a girl is going to meet her boyfriend, maybe he could step up and meet her? **Boyer:** Yes, you should go meet her. I want to stress that Campus security has an escort program that is underutilized. At any point, you may call or stop in and if you want you can ask for an escort. This is for your safety and security. Depending on the time of day, it will probably be a student on foot. It's not for convenience, but we will provide security escorts anywhere on campus, especially for those who work late at night, like at the food truck or library. Please feel free to call. Depending on time of day, it may take a bit to free up some officers. If it's a student patrol it may take some time as they're walking. You could call in advance

as well and an officer could meet you. Please don't hesitate to use it. **Calenda:** After the most recent incident, I met with VP Dave Dentler and Liz Rongaur. Allison Bridgeman and Dale Boyer were there as well. We wanted to ensure we were covering bases of safety. I want to share some things with you that we talked about. We were thinking that it might be good to have a campus safety campaign, calling it "I'll walk with you" and we want to raise awareness in the community in terms of safety and involve everyone on campus to look out for each other. We are very interested in this being a campus-wide initiative. This is something that our community must do. It's not the victim's fault if she is assaulted. This is a campaign to raise awareness for safety and to engage everyone in the community. We're checking locks on all residence halls to ensure proper working use. Some of you senators will give us feedback. **Moritz:** I live in the Rose Garden SDLC and we created an event on November 18<sup>th</sup> on the Dell. We're going to have candles. It's called "Take Back the Night." President Strickwerda was going to come and walk too. **Calenda:** That might be something that the media would be interested in as well. **Moritz:** We have an interview with the Etownian. A couple of our friends are on the radio station. We have fliers that we're getting soon to hang on Sunday. Susan Asbury is coming as well. Many colleges have done this where they do take back the night walks around campus. It's to spread awareness for sexual violence and other events. **Calenda:** It's to raise awareness for everyone's right to walk at night and be safe. Back to our list of tactics... We want to develop a 10 tips safety list and increase night patrols. **Boyer:** We are not looking at hiring more staff, but looking at changing schedules so that more student patrol officers are in. Before they were just on foot, now they may be driving a car for higher visibility. **McCrary-McClain:** Can you speak to the routine of S.P.O.s? **Boyer:** They are students who are hired by campus security to be an extra set of eyes and ears for us out on the street. They have flashlights and radios. They're supposed to walk around and check in with RAs working at desks. If they see something they think is suspicious, they can get on the radio and have an officer dispatched right away. They're non-confrontational and are there to be extra eyes and ears. They do the escort program from 9-1 and 10-3 on weekends. Gordon Smith is in charge of the S.P.O program. It's a vital service for us, we can always use more. **McCrary-McClain:** Could you emphasize more patrol being outside residence halls since RAs are already on duty? **Boyer:** Yes. **Lachance:** You said the S.P.Os can escort you back on foot? What makes them walking by themselves at night safe? **Boyer:** They travel in pairs at least. They shouldn't be working alone. **Rimbe:** Do they constantly patrol or do they sometimes sit? They sit in the quad commons for a couple hours. I was just wondering if they're designated to stay there. **Boyer:** They're allowed to take a break especially in the winter but, it shouldn't be for hours. **Talley:** Do they have any special training? **Boyer:** That's a valid question. We have run the RAD program, women's self defense. The types of situations that we're seeing and that 99.9% you would see are crimes of opportunity because individuals are walking alone. These individuals don't want witnesses, so they're not going to go after groups. The types of assault we're trying to deal with are people looking for lone victims. **Calenda:** Back to tactics... Dale is offering a RAD program as usual, adding a new safety program. We will find out more soon. We agreed to hold a special forum to do an environmental audit form of the campus to be made aware of any deficiencies. **Peters:** Will the other program be offered for males too? **Boyer:** It's more of an introduction class for RAD. It's very little hands on physical defense. **Peters:** Will there be one offered for men and women? **Calenda:** That's one of today's objectives. **Peters:** It should be a program similar to RAD for men and women, not just anti-rape tactics. **Clemens:** Perhaps something with personal safety tactics... some people carry stun guns maybe. **Calenda:** Stun guns are not permitted on campus... pepper spray would be a better option. **Boyer:** Pepper spray is covered in the RAD program. We offer an aerosol defense class. Pepper spray is permitted on campus, but you should have training to use it. There are a lot of pros and cons; if it's something you choose to do we'll set something up. We've had nasty experiences in the past with it. One time someone decided to test it which got into the air handling system and we knocked out the whole 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of Schlosser for a while. **Calenda:** The main obstacle to these things is the cost. **Boyer:** I talked with the president earlier and implementing electronic entrances is a priority. **Clemens:** How does that play into the big picture when considering other avenues as well when other options like more blue lights, etc.? Who is discussing that? Are students getting input into that? **Calenda:** We have facilities planning with construction -standing committee. I routinely take information from senate to them. It is important to know how students feel these resources are. What is the top priority? Emergency phones? Sometimes I hear that cell phones are of better use. We had relied on emergency phones in the past. Locations of blue boxes should be better, the places they are don't really seem like where you'd need them. We need more on paths where students would actually be walking. Blue lights would help but also some people don't know where they are. I didn't know about the one in Steinman until I ran into it. I think also the lights-

would the school be interested in adding more lights if everyone felt it was necessary? I walk on a pathway with lights and there aren't as many lights by Nicarry/Steinman. You could probably survey students to see where they're walking. **Peters:** Earlier Dale said there's a phone/light going past the soccer fields past to the quads, the path more traveled is the grass by the soccer fields. **Boyer:** Don't walk there. That's not an accepted pathway; it's an area that puts you at risk. The concept is to take out day to day risk factors. **Calenda:** The purpose is to make the campus safe for everyone. I hear you saying stay on the path, but my decision to walk here doesn't make another's decision to hurt me any less serious. **Lachance:** Most of these are defensive things, but some of these are already occurring. I think we should start with educating people (males since they're doing the crimes). Label "this is assault" and this is what can happen to you. Focus on preventative measures since it's not women's fault. **Calenda:** What do you think would work/what would students attend if something was offered? How could it work? **McCrary-McClain:** Maybe more of a comprehensive unit of security. **Calenda:** A general safety program for everyone? If we wanted to get specific, what would have to be there for it to work here? What would make you want to attend? **Myerhoffer:** I think something along the lines of self defense would draw me; now that I know about RAD I'm probably going to go to it. That's something I can take with me after Etown. **Calenda:** Focusing on self defenses is one aspect. The majority of assaults occur between 2 people who know each other so there would be some understanding that we would have to address the issue of acquaintance rape. **Whirt:** I feel like if we had lighting in the apartments and quads (better lighting) it would be better because I can barely see getting out of my car at night so if someone was approaching me it would be hard to see. **Boyer:** Next weekend Friday night and Saturday and Sunday morning are the RAD classes. **Myers:** Mike Green talked about alcohol and it was a different way of presenting it. He made it funny and enjoyable. It's not a funny topic but people listen more when it's funny and engaging. **Calenda:** Would peer-to-peer be more effective? **Myers:** No, it's better for someone else to present it. **Goslin:** I know something that entices students are food and free stuff; any kind of mace or something. I think that would more entice to students rather than a sit down talk. **Calenda:** So, there is a possibility of weaving educational components into a social activity? **Lacaillade:** Maybe bringing in people who have gone through things like this? They've gone through this, have dealt with it... what have they found helpful to keep ourselves safe. **Luckenbill:** I was the girl who was assaulted on Friday night. I decided to get up and tell you all this because if you know me, you might take me a little more seriously. Sometimes people are just like, oh that's sad. But if you know the person maybe you'll realize that it's a serious matter. In regards to the blue lights and campus security saying don't walk on the path, I would suggest not taking that path. Also the facts that what was said about people who've gone through it, I would be more than happy to talk because I want to help other people. So, I wanted to make everyone aware that it can happen to anyone, and there are ways you can help deal with it. **Rasmussen:** Thank you Taylor, I know it had to be hard... also in light of talking about educating people, as a peer mentor, I know we have a lot of first years who go through the orientation process. I think maybe this would be a good opportunity to implement something like this. During orientation we did have a meeting on sexual assault, but we could make this more prevalent. We were looking up the policy in the handbook and there's not a clear definition of assault in the policy. Other schools have listed specific examples and we don't have something like that. **Calenda:** We have something like that but you're looking for more something more extensive? **Merroth:** They provided examples you may not think of initially. **Lachance:** Are these underage people students at the High School? **Calenda:** Borough police has been involved. It's my understanding that they've followed up with students. **Myerhoffer:** Etown is a small community and we're all really upset about everything including the vandalism and we feel kind of helpless and the fact that these high school kids are doing this. What is the borough doing? **Calenda:** There were 2 incidents on campus linked to juveniles in the community. Others are not. Be confident that you're in a caring community, but also be realistic. There are people here who may have the capacity to harm others. We're all bringing guests onto the campus; having the opportunity to bring a guest is a privilege. Guests should be registered. If we have an incident, that helps us identify them. Allowing guests into your places are your decision, but when you invite people you don't know you're creating unnecessary risks. **Bridgeman:** We have started to discuss things to help with the campaign. There are RA offices in the halls; one of the things we'll be doing is asking the RAs to come more into the lobby areas to send a message that we shouldn't be letting people piggyback into buildings. Take a more active role in registering guests, asking to see ID's, having guests registered. It might be that sometimes RAs ask to see your ID. Hopefully that will make people safer in the long run. **McCrary-McClain:** Are guests allowed to register at campus security? Might it be possible to register at campus security first and then bring it to the RA? **Bridgeman:** Now you can do either or, it's good to explore

doing both. **McCrary-McClain:** I think it would be good to have to go to both. **Boyer:** The only downside is depending on activity level the dispatcher might not have the time. If there's a specific event bringing 25 guests in, it might be difficult. **Clemens:** I think that we don't want to complicate the process too much for students, and worry about efficiency for campus security. There are limited resources and I think we do need to improve it. Right now the only way we keep a common record is an excel sheet. There's no way of letting campus security know we have registered a guest. **Bridgeman:** We're talking about making a public folder for Res life and campus security. **Matic:** When I have students who come to me with issues, they usually say they don't realize they're responsible for their guest. Maybe give them a piece of paper saying you're responsible for you guest's actions. **Peters:** Do guests with cars have to go to campus security? I'm an RA in Royer and a lot of students have a car and don't know they have to go to Campus Security. **Bridgeman:** We can look at doing fliers as well. We want it to be simple. **Graham:** Is there any penalty for not registering a guest? **Bridgeman:** I'm not aware of a specific penalty. Would that be a good idea? **Graham:** I know if I had someone over and it gets really late I'm not going to register them at that time. Maybe if there was a specific punishment I would. **Clemens:** I'd like to speak against the local security company. I've only seen that at big universities. **Bridgeman:** There are many schools that have that, to my knowledge it's not to that extent. We're really just exploring if it would work here. **Farkas:** I know everyone loves that at home feel... holding the door or knocking on a window. I think that's something we shouldn't lose. **Bridgeman:** It's a decision students are making that they could be letting someone in who could cause problems. **Boyer:** All you women here who agree with that, raise your hand. **Farkas:** I don't know every single person but if they look like a student I'm going to let them in. **McCrary-McClain:** I think one of the things of the school is to be friendly, but you can't just let everyone in. If that was the case we wouldn't be having a discussion about being safe. **Boyer:** I'm sure most of you have heard the story but I'll reiterate. We caught someone and kicked him off. Security chased him and a resident in Royer let him in and hid him. He's a registered sex offender in 2 states. **Bridgeman:** Not only are you letting people in the front door, but I know a lot of you leave your doors unlocked. That really lets people in. **Desmond:** One thing I don't see is card swiping in all dorms. **Bridgeman:** Right, it preserves the homey feel. Good point. **Calenda:** Does anybody else have a comment? Let's wrap up with Liz. **Braungard:** If we're undertaking a safety initiative, make it high profile, t-shirts, etc. One of the ideas- the "I'll walk with you"- developed an icon/logo. We want students to rally together and say they're not letting this happen on campus. From the communications and marketing standpoint, how would you feel about us helping you raise awareness? Develop a logo, raise the profile, put it on the website, papers, to promote it and let people know students are working together. **McCrary-McClain:** I don't know how broad you want to take it but you can also do the alcohol thing as well, having people walk with an intoxicated friend. **Braungard:** You start your time here with the first year walk. This idea of walking with each other throughout the 4 years could start with that and staying connected whether alcohol related or otherwise- make sure everyone is safe. **Peters:** I like that idea, I think that free stuff is good. Get out the logo in as many ways as possible... shirts, bags, etc. When you have a logo of a big idea it's nice to relate it and talk about it. **Braungard:** There are companies that may be interested in aligning themselves with something like this. We may want to consider looking in to raising awareness and getting funding from local companies. **Calenda:** I appreciate all of the feedback. I have to go to another meeting and I wondered if there are any questions for me specifically before I leave? **Post:** I have a suggestion. I think campus security has done a great job with the alerts, but what happens after the fact? I think people have heard what has happened but I think follow up to that would be good to let people know things are getting done. Are the soccer field lights being on as a response to the events? **Boyer:** Follow up sounds good, but through what avenue? **Post:** The Etownian maybe. **Boyer:** The lights are controlled by computerized system which runs with daylight savings. **Post:** I know people have liked the lights being on. I wonder if they could stay on later. **Boyer:** I would love to have the place lit up, but it's not realistic. I'll check into it. Jumping back to education, there's a program that I'd like to make people aware of. It's a date safe program called "may I kiss you?" It goes into the communication between men and women that aren't really there. Maybe OSA could look into it. OSA sponsors the RAD program. For anyone who doesn't know what it is, I have fliers. The first short program will be December 2 for about 2 hours.

#### Student Comments

- **Frantz:** Next week senate will be reviewing the medical amnesty policy so you can come to that. Thanks for coming.

**Announcements**

- **Peters:** The tree lighting ceremony next week following the dinner, and the lighting is in the Dell.

**Next Meeting**

November 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:45 p.m. in H212

Respectfully Submitted,

**Keelyan Sheeley**  
**Student Senate Secretary**

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