RESOLUTION RATIFYING UPDATES TO THE VIRGINIA TECH SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

WHEREAS, §23.1-805 Code of Virginia requires the Board of Visitors to adopt a committee structure charged with education and prevention of violence on campus; and

WHEREAS, by resolution at its November 2009 meeting, the Board of Visitors ratified the Virginia Tech Safety and Security Committee Structure including the Campus and Workplace Violence Prevention Committee, and the Threat Assessment Team; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Tech Safety and Security Committee structure has been changed to reflect lessons learned in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and other events; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Tech Safety and Security Committee structure and responsibilities are identified in the diagram labeled *Updated* Virginia Tech Safety and Security Committee Structure which is attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Visitors ratifies the UPDATED Virginia Tech Safety and Security Committee Structure.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above resolution ratifying updates to the Virginia Tech Safety and Security Committee Structure be approved.

June 11, 2024
*Updated* Safety and Security Committee Structure

President

Incident Leadership Team
- Evaluate recommendations from the University Safety and Security Committee to maintain and improve the effectiveness of the overarching university safety, emergency management, and security program for all Virginia Tech facilities (owned and leased), including safety and security assessments, policies, plans, programs, education and infrastructure, including changes that may affect the quality of the university’s living, learning and working environment;
- Ensure that sufficient university resources and funding are available to perform necessary emergency management, safety, and security functions, and that these resources are consistent with anticipated regulatory changes;
- Guide the education and prevention of violence on campus in accordance with Section 23.1-805 of Code of Virginia including (i) creation of university safety and security policies, and (ii) providing direction to the Campus and Workplace Violence Prevention Committee and the Threat Assessment Team on the development and implementation of violence prevention procedures, education and guidance regarding recognition and reporting of individuals whose behavior may pose a threat, assessment of such individuals and means of action to resolve potential threats; and
- Advise the President on safety and security issues.

Incident Management Team
- Led by Virginia Tech Emergency Management;
- Implements the tactical objectives for resolving an incident, including recovery operations;
- Comprises members from across the university representing core capabilities in response and recovery functions.

University Safety & Security Committee
- Approves Emergency Management Plan (§ 23.1-804);
- Approves committee structure for education & prevention of violence (§ 23.1-805);
- Oversees implementation & compliance with health and safety policies.

Threat Assessment Team
- Chaired by Chief of Police, or designee;
- Assess, intervene, and follow policies for individuals whose behaviors may present a threat to the safety of the campus community as appropriate;
- Work with law enforcement and mental health providers to expedite assessment and intervention;
- Develop comprehensive fact-based assessments of students, employees or other individuals who may present a threat to the university.

Campus & Workplace Violence Prevention Committee
- Chaired by Chief of Police, or designee;
- Responsibilities outlined in § 23.1-805;
- Recommend and promoting awareness and training programs on campus and workplace violence prevention and communicate internally regarding these programs;
- Review periodic summary reports from Student Affairs, Campus Police, Human Resources, regarding violence prevention.

Health & Safety Committee
- Chaired by Executive Director of Environmental Health & Safety;
- Oversee implementation & compliance with health and safety policies.

Emergency Management Committee
- Chaired by Executive Director of Emergency Management;
- Provide oversight, coordination, & leadership for improving emergency management procedures;
- Continually evaluate the needs of the university, developing appropriate planning, programmatic response and mitigation strategies to improve disaster resiliency.

Division of Public Safety | May 2024
Changes to the Safety & Security Committee Structure

Michael Mulhare, P.E.
Interim Associate Vice President for Public Safety
Previous Structure
Ratified 9 November 2009

BOV

- Approves Emergency Management Plan (§ 23.1-804);
- Approves committee structure for education & prevention of violence (§ 23.1-805)

President

Safety & Security Policy Committee

Threat Assessment Team

Campus & Workplace Violence Prevention Committee

Health & Safety Committee

Emergency Management Committee
Policy 5615: Specific Updates to Committee Structure

The Safety and Security Policy Committee transitioned to the Incident Leadership Team

Established the University Safety and Security Committee

No substantive changes to Threat Assessment Team, Campus & Workplace Violence Prevention Committee, Health & Safety Committee or Emergency Management Committee
• Appointed and Chaired by the President
• Evaluate recommendations brought forward by the EVPCOO from the University Safety and Security Committee to maintain and improve the effectiveness of the overarching university safety, emergency management, and security program for all Virginia Tech facilities
• Ensure that sufficient university resources and funding are available to perform necessary emergency management, safety, and security functions, and that these resources are consistent with anticipated regulatory changes
• Guide the education and prevention of violence on campus in accordance with Section 23.1-805 of Code of Virginia
• Advise the President on incident response, management and recovery
• Led by Virginia Tech Emergency Management
• Implements the tactical objectives for resolving an incident, including recovery operations
• Comprises members from across the university representing core capabilities in support of response and recovery functions.
• Chair appointed by the Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (EVPCOO), in consultation with the President

• Membership appointed by the EVPCOO

• Provides a forum for university-wide safety and security concerns
  • Review university’s hazards, risks, and practices related to the safety and security of campus
  • Makes recommendations to improve campus security policies and procedures and reviews issues affecting the overall safety and well-being of Virginia Tech’s diverse community

• Consult with units responsible for public safety on the issues of concern

• Taking up other safety and security matters referred to the Committee

• Advise the EVPCOO on safety and security issues
• Chaired by Chief of Police
• Created in accordance with § 23.1-805
• Assess, intervene, and follow policies for individuals whose behaviors may present a threat to the safety of the campus community as appropriate
• Work with law enforcement and mental health providers to expedite assessment and intervention
• Develop comprehensive fact-based assessments of students, employees or other individuals who may present a threat to the university
• Chaired by Chief of Police
• Responsibilities outlined in § 23.1-805
• Recommend and promote awareness and training programs on campus and workplace violence prevention and communicating internally regarding these programs
• Review periodic summary reports from Student Affairs, Campus Police, HR, regarding violence prevention
• Chaired by Executive Director of Environmental Health and Safety
• Oversees implementation of and compliance with the University Health and Safety Policy
• Committees supporting the Health and Safety Policy include:
  • Occupational Health and Safety Committee,
  • Institutional Biosafety Committee,
  • Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee,
  • Institutional Review Board,
  • Radiation Safety Committee,
  • Chemical Safety and Hazardous Materials Management Committee
• Chaired by Executive Director of Emergency Management
• Provides oversight, coordination, & leadership for improving emergency management procedures
• Continually evaluate the needs of the university, developing appropriate planning, programmatic response and mitigation strategies to improve disaster resiliency
• Engages internal and external stakeholders and partners
Resolution Ratifying Updates to the Virginia Tech Safety and Security Committee Structure

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