

USSC, December 12, 2019 – Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Cathy Brennan, Judy Faubert, Matthew Hawkins, Darrell Jeter, David Kaufman, Derek Kemp, David Perry

Guests: Garry Coulson, Roger Sit

No Smoking Policy:

Cathy Brennan discussed an update to the “No Smoking Policy” to include the use of electronic cigarettes (“e-cigs”), “vaping” devices and other electronic delivery system which simulate tobacco smoking by producing aerosols resembling smoke. Such products are prohibited in indoor areas controlled by the University and in outdoor areas up to 25 feet from University facilities. Update to the policy was not voted on at meeting as attendee numbers did not satisfy necessary quorum for voting. Vote on policy was taken the following week over email and was unanimously approved.

Annual Radiation Safety Review:

Roger Sit discussed an update to the radiation safety program at the University. Roger provided a brief summary of the scope of the ionizing and non-ionizing radiation programs, including a synopsis of the types of equipment on campus and the numbers of registrations and licenses the Institution holds. New projects and challenges for FY 2019 were discussed, including the addition of new facilities, equipment and radiotherapy procedures.

Emergency Management Update:

Darrell Jeter provided a brief update on activities of the EM group. This included discussion of Halloween on Franklin (10/31), which faced unique challenges given severe weather coinciding with the event, and the Winter Weather Summit (12/10) which involved a number of groups that coordinate campus adverse weather activities. Included in the summit was an annual refresher on HR policy for UNC System regarding Conditions 1, 2 and 3 for adverse weather, the circumstances that would require their implementation and how resources would be prioritized. It was noted that a high volume of weather events was not a necessity for significant impact, you just need one event to affect operations and safety.

Important ongoing initiatives were discussed. These included a large-scale, collaborative tabletop exercise on 12/17 that includes the Chancellors senior cabinet, emergency operations center staff and field response supervisors and external partners. Ongoing initiatives also included Adverse Weather Messaging & Operational Status for messaging specifically for winter weather, but also the possibility for expansion of the service to provide links for other supplemental info of interest to individuals on campus. This may include a dedicated webpage for operations status and adjusted schedules (e.g. dining, campus health). Anticipated this will be functional by 2020.

Darrell also discussed the Alert Carolina system and the focus on ensuring messaging is effective and reaching the intended audience. Initiatives are ongoing to explore whether capability exists to use of this system for nontraditional emergencies or other informational messages regarding operational events (e.g. water pipe breaks). Discussed possible SMS opt-in system for individuals to choose what informational messages or alerts (non-emergency) that they may be interested in. This system would be unique to groups that may change over time (e.g Summer camps).

UNC Police Update:

Chief Perry provided update on status and activities of the UNC Police Department, particularly around building a team of the right people with the support of administration to be a positive influence on campus. Discussions with all UNCPD staff reminding them of the Mission Statement of UNC Police to always act with professionalism, integrity and provide outstanding customer service. Chief Perry discussed the importance of putting forth a good faith effort to be transparent and timely in communications with the community. Chief Perry highlighted an accomplishment of the Department which was receiving National Police and Communications Accreditation recognition in 2019. This makes UNC the first university in the State of North Carolina with this accreditation, and the 6th in the country.

Chief Perry discusses the importance of free speech events (protests/activism) and embracing them, whether planned or spontaneous, but that they should always be conducted safely and respectfully.

Chief Perry provided short summary on Active Shooter Response training class for employees and students offered by UNC PD and Crime Prevention Division designed to teach basic emergency responses and empower individuals in the situation.

Campus Safety Update:

Derek Kemp discussed the new Division of Institutional Integrity and Risk Management reorganization to fall under recently-recruited Vice Chancellor George Battle III.

Silent Sam monument continues to be high priority and a point of high interest from community. Monitoring probability of free-speech event at BOG meeting, and at any related activities, that may generate protests.

The EHS director position vacated after the retirement of Mary Beth Koza will be opened to nationwide search in January 2020 with goal of filling it expeditiously.