Date: January 22, 1986
From: Office of the Chancellor
Subject: Personal Safety on Campus
To: Presidents, State University of New York

The attached Report, "Measures to Improve Personal Safety on Campus," was presented to the Board of Trustees at its regular meeting on November 19, 1985. The Report summarizes the campus reports submitted during this past year, outlines several University-wide efforts to improve personal safety on campus, and presents a number of recommendations for future campus activities and reports to the Board of Trustees.

First, I wish to underscore my comments to you at the last Administrators' Retreat. The personal safety of students, faculty, and staff is of utmost importance to me and to the Board of Trustees. Our campuses must be communities where all members may participate freely in all activities without fear of personal harm. A continuous review of campus personal safety activities and the reports to this office will increase the importance of campus safety in the minds of all members of the campus community and, I hope, maintain personal safety at a very high level.

Second, I strongly endorse the six recommendations in the Report and ask that measures be taken to implement them. Of particular importance are Recommendations 3 and 4, which call for the faculty, students, and staff to cooperate in the development of educational experiences to promote better personal relationships on the campuses. Your efforts in this area should be reported in your annual personal safety report at the conclusion of this academic year.

Recommendation 5 calls for the coordination of the personal safety committee's recommendations with the annual budget process. Please give due consideration to the recommendations of your Campus Advisory Committee in the budget-making process.

I am asking also that you continue the campus Personal Safety Advisory Committee as outlined in Recommendation 6. Its actions and recommendations can provide a focal point for the review of personal safety issues and can provide the basis for your annual report to me and, subsequently, to the Board of Trustees. The annual report is due on June 15 of each year.
Attached to the Report are campus reports received from the Centers at Binghamton and Buffalo and the College at Oswego. The Binghamton and Oswego documents are examples of reports that show discussion and recommended action on a wide range of issues; the Buffalo report shows an administrative response to the committee's recommendations. Excellent reports were received from a number of other campuses and they can be shared with your campus committee if you so desire. (If you would like a copy of the appendices from the Binghamton report, please call Dr. J. Norman Hostetter, Associate Vice Chancellor for Educational Services, 518/473-1051.)

Finally, in an effort to emphasize important issues and to provide guidance for future reports, I have included an annual report outline. It follows the format of several of the current campus reports and indicates the items that are to be included in future documents.

Please keep us informed of the ongoing personal safety issues on the campuses. Questions and comments regarding personal safety should be directed to Dr. Hostetter.

Clifton R. Wharton, Jr.

Attachments

This memorandum addressed to:

Presidents, State-operated Campuses
Presidents, Community Colleges
Deans, Statutory Colleges

Copies for information sent to:

President Coll
Vice Provost Spencer
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Campus Personal Safety Report

Chancellor's Annual Report Outline
(Due in the Chancellor's Office by June 15)

I. Presidential Charge to the Personal Safety Committee and Reporting Structure.

II. Committee Membership (Identify offices or organizations represented, faculty, and students).

III. Committee's Activities for this Academic Year.

IV. Reports and Recommendations Issued by the Committee.

V. Unresolved Committee Issues.

VI. Responses to the Recommendations.
MEASURES
TO IMPROVE
PERSONAL SAFETY
ON CAMPUS

A Report to the
Board of Trustees

by the
Office of Educational Services

October 22, 1985
Introduction

This report is intended to provide an update to the Board of Trustees on progress in addressing campus personal safety issues. It summarizes responses from 61 of the 64 SUNY campuses and focuses on their findings and recommendations in regard to: (1) environmental factors influencing personal safety, (2) personnel factors influencing public safety, and (3) University-wide initiatives to improve personal safety on campus. A final section of the report contains major conclusions and recommendations for continuing action in regard to public safety issues. It should be noted that many of the items included in the report have special relevance to safety problems affecting mainly women.

The report continues a progression which began formally in April, 1984, when Chancellor Wharton, responding to expressed concerns about personal safety on campus, called for each State-operated campus "to form a broad-based and continuing advisory group to assess the quality of safety concerns...." Following a June, 1984 staff report on the campus responses, the SUNY Board of Trustees adopted a resolution underscoring the Chancellor's call for a review of personal safety factors. The scope of the directive was extended to all SUNY campuses when the Chancellor subsequently reiterated his call for a report of the findings of each advisory group, with special emphasis to be given to safety problems faced by women, in a Memorandum to Presidents dated June 29, 1984. A second interim staff report was presented to the Board of Trustees at its October 1984 meeting, following by a week a similar report to the campus presidents at the Administrator's Retreat.
Chancellor Wharton's several memorandums to the campuses called for reports in detail sufficient to document campus actions to establish a "broad-based and continuing" advisory group. No explicit "charge" was stated, but the Memorandum to Presidents of June 29, 1984, proposes these advisory group actions: "to assess the quality of safety on campus" (including the level and quality of public safety staffing), "to recommend measures to resolve identified problems," and "to look for exemplary preventive programs" that other campuses might adopt. Specific guidance on the composition of the "broad-based" advisory group (representatives from "key offices such as public safety, student affairs, and physical plant, ... students in general, student government, faculty and staff") had been given in an earlier (April 20, 1984) Memorandum to Presidents of State-Operated Campuses, sent also to Community College Presidents for information. In addition, the reference to the advisory group as "continuing" signaled an intent that it would be on-going in its role and functions, rather than temporary.

The campus reports indicate that the personal safety reviews were conducted either by standing committees with a long history of campus interest and with on-going responsibilities or by groups specially appointed to execute the charge of the Chancellor and Board of Trustees. The summation appearing in the next section has a heavy emphasis on issues affecting residential campuses, reflecting the fact that personal safety problems within a campus' purview are more frequently encountered in residential campus settings than in nonresidential. The inference should not be drawn, however, that the personal safety needs and concerns of students and staff in nonresidential settings such as the community
colleges were given any less attention by the campus advisory group and the campus administration. The fact that SUNY campuses differ markedly in their size, setting, and complexity--rural residential, suburban nonresidential, urban residential, village residential, medical centers, community colleges, affects the nature and seriousness of personal safety problems among the campuses. It may account, in part, for the varying approaches to personal safety issues taken by the constituent campuses and the relative weight placed on specific approaches. No specific format for the personal safety report was mandated in the June 1984 request by the Chancellor for such reports. In the future, a specific framework of response will be designed, allowing campuses to indicate both the priority they place on certain problems and the approaches they are taking to resolve them. In many cases, it is clear that budgetary constraints are making it difficult for the campuses to move as rapidly in this area as they would wish.

Major Findings and Recommendations of Campus Advisory Groups

Although the campus reports varied widely in specificity and amount of detail, certain personal safety factors stood out as representing problems--or perceptions of problems--which warranted attention and corrective actions. These "major" findings and recommendations have been chosen for summation here either because of the frequency of their appearance in the reports and their obvious priority as personal safety issues. They fall into three groupings; each listing is followed by explanatory comment and, in some cases, by examples of actions identified by the advisory groups and considered worthy of dissemination to other campuses.
1. **Environmental Factors Influencing Personal Safety:**

   a. **Improve campus lighting;**
   
   _Comment:_ This most-frequently identified cause of a real or perceived threat to personal safety was emphasized as a way to combat attacks in such high-risk areas as parking lots, entryways, and tree-shaded walkways. A number of campuses have changed the lighting to improve visibility and a sense of security; others plan budget requests for funds to do so. Substantial costs have been incurred and will continue to be incurred in effecting needed lighting upgrades.

   b. **Improve locks on doors and windows of residence halls;**
   
   _Comment:_ Over the years, loss or duplication of residence hall keys has eroded assurance of dorm occupants about the security of the doors to their rooms. Lock changes are underway at some campuses, and some campuses are experimenting with or inquiring into new devices such as push-button combination locks for dorm doors, or locks activated by ID cards. Cost implications are high.

   c. **Remove ground objects which obscure vision or provide hiding places;**
   
   _Comment:_ Environmentally attractive shrubbery was identified in some reports as offering hiding places in which attackers could await potential victims. Some reports noted, even when no attacks had occurred, that a climate of fear may be engendered
by the presence of such potential hiding places. Action has been taken by some campuses to eradicate or alter such environmental objects for greater security.

d. **Install special communication system;**

*Comment:* The need for a special system to speed calls for assistance and to report emergencies was identified in a significant number of reports. Some campuses have installed special phones—"Red" or "Blue" phones connected to the public safety switchboard or other source of immediate aid. The cost implications vary according to the distance to be covered and the system in place or chosen.

e. **Study ways to limit and control access to the campus;**

*Comment:* The concept of the "open campus" has of necessity had to be modified in recent years because of the targeting of college campuses and their occupants as "easy marks" for prowlers, burglars, and persons seeking victims for robbery or other purpose. Corrective measures are complicated by the fact that campuses offer attractive public events and desire to be perceived in the community and the region as a cultural asset, readily accessible to residents and visitors. Students themselves are also sometimes resistant to policies which restrict campus access. Complicating the search for a solution is the lack of sufficient public safety personnel to provide the patrols and entryway monitoring that will be needed.
2. Personnel Factors Influencing Personal Safety:

a. Increase and improve staffing of campus public safety;
   Comment: Some improvement in public safety staffing occurred during 1985-86 by assigning 15 additional public safety positions. Additional positions have been requested in the 1986-1987 budget cycle. Improved training of public safety personnel also was reported as a need in some advisory group materials. (N.D.: A special section on this topic appears on succeeding pages.)

b. Enlarge patrolling, especially in high-risk areas;
   Comment: Some campus reports expressed the belief that more foot patrolling by public safety officers would act as a deterrent to harassment and attacks. Some campuses have opted for student patrols as a way to augment patrols by public safety officers, and impressive organizations of volunteer student patrols and student "neighborhood watches" are reported by a few campuses. One issue of concern about such an approach is that of liability for injury to a student while he or she is on patrol, or charges brought against student patrollers in the event of alleged mishandling of persons in an apparent act of wrongdoing. SUNY Counsel will be reviewing this issue.

c. Provide escort services;
   Comment: Student organizations on some campuses have taken the lead in establishing, funding or operating these services. Problems mentioned include reliability of the participants,
continuity of the service, and uncertainty about liability in the event of mishaps. Public safety officers also provide escort services on some campuses during late evening hours. Achievement of the increased number of public safety positions requested in 1986-87 should help expand this service.

d. Ensure the availability of competent counseling services for victims of personal attack, or abuse;

Comment: A number of campuses reported that these services are being provided or access to them in the geographic area has been arranged. One major deterrent identified is the cost of maintaining qualified personnel for on-campus counseling; another is gaining student belief that confidentiality is assured if non-college counseling is the option.

3. Educational and Policy Factors Influencing Personal Safety:

a. Provide information, instruction and training;

Comment: A number of campuses reported finding a need to heighten awareness of situations and behavior which could foster or trigger personal safety problems or incidents for self and/or others. Also identified as needs were (1) to increase sensitivity about and concern for protecting the rights of others and (2) to enhance personal effectiveness in countering threats to one's own personal safety. Some campuses reported that special groups (rape awareness task forces, for example) had been formed, for this purpose, campus-sponsored, some student-sponsored, and
b. **Promote the adoption of safety measures in residence halls;**

*Comment:* A number of reports from residential campuses identified as a major need some limitation on access into the residence halls and the ending of careless securing of residence hall doors and windows by dorm occupants. The former has policy implications for the campus College Council and the residence hall student councils; the latter has procedural and supervisory implications for residence hall personnel. Some campuses have instituted 24-hour locking of exterior doors to the residence halls; others are locking the residence halls during more limited hours. Student and public safety patrols have been increased to check on building security during evening and late evening hours. Night receptionist desks are also in operation to check on those entering the buildings.

c. **Provide seminars and workshops on personal safety topics;**

*Comment:* A number of advisory groups found a need for taking an educational approach to attack serious matters directly or indirectly related to personal safety on campus. They have instituted or proposed seminars and workshops on such topics as: (1) alcohol abuse, seen as a precipitating and maintaining cause of personal harassment and personal attacks in many instances; (2) rape prevention, including attention to the "date rape" phenomenon--rape and attempted rape evolving from close acquaintanceships; (3) self-protection and self-defense, to cope
with attempted assaults; and (4) the underlying attitudinal and behavioral causes of violence in our society (See section to follow.). Some campuses provided examples of these educational approaches, including descriptive materials, and a few advisory groups impressively reported on extensive research into and explication of the benefits possible from educational programs on personal safety factors.

**University-Wide Initiatives to Improve Personal Safety on Campus**

Personal safety problems summarized in this section also have been studied during the year by the University's housing directors, student affairs officers, public safety officers, and some student organizations. Feedback from these groups shows that their findings and proposed solutions parallel and replicate many reported by some of the campus advisory groups. Concerning residence halls, for example, solutions discussed included regular patrols of residence hall environs and residence hall areas by public safety officers, desk coverage at entrances by residence assistants, proposals to acquire locking devices which require identification cards, and two-key systems coded to prevent room identification of keys by strangers.

In preceding sections, reference was made to two areas which would improve personal safety on campus: better training of public safety officers and better utilization of educational programming. Action taken by Central Administration on each deserves brief mention here.
Public Safety Officer Training:

A campus community is a special place: Its dual mission of teaching and research is aimed essentially at human development. Campuses have a long and valued tradition of openness, with a maximum degree of freedom of expression and inquiry and a minimum of restriction. Their major population group is classified as "young adult" and most campus participants tend to be highly mobile, individually responsible for their behavior, and seeking diverse and individualistic personal goals. Campus public safety officers have a highly specialized responsibility requiring careful and appropriate training to effectively contribute to the maintenance of personal safety in this community.

The review of personal safety on campus during this past year has included a re-examination of the training received by the campus public safety officers, training which must be service-oriented, stressing the understanding of alternatives to confrontational tactics and arrest and directed toward the campus environment and student concerns. Public safety services must be seen as an integral part of the educational process; the educational, informational and awareness programs conducted by the public safety officers must strive to enlist the assistance and cooperation of all members of the campus community in the promotion of practical and responsible community security. The public safety officer training must reflect the point of view that personal safety is everyone's responsibility.
With this special context firmly in mind, a committee of Public Safety Directors developed a revised basic course of training for campus public safety officers to be administered jointly by Central Administration and the public safety directors. The 376-hour curriculum, specifically related to the role as described in the preceding paragraphs, features a problem-centered approach based on day-to-day job realities and includes both proactive and reactive elements germane to the academic environment. These range from handling traffic and coping with less serious crimes of minor theft and vandalism to responding effectively and efficiently to major crimes, which occasionally will occur on campuses in spite of all preventive measures.

This course of instruction will become effective for training programs starting next year; its goal is to ensure responsive, highly qualified professionals who will fulfill the University's commitment to the rule of law for all members of and visitors to its campuses.

Symposium on Educational Approaches to Counter Violence:

During its discussions of reports on campus personal safety, the SUNY Board of Trustees expressed strong concern about the incidence of violent acts in contemporary society in general and the occasional violence on campuses. In response to the Board's views, an ad hoc committee was formed by then Provost Komisar to examine ways in which research capabilities within the University might be used to explore the issue of campus safety.
The committee recommended, and the University leadership has agreed, that the academic community must try to bring to bear, as the Trustees had proposed, its considerable capabilities in search of ways to counter the impact on campus life and learning of individual and societal use of violent means to resolve differences or to impose will or way on others. Dr. Komisar has recently issued a call for papers which delineate (1) strategies for using campus programs to combat harassment or abuse of, or violence against, persons and/or (2) strategies to combat the stereotypes or circumstances that cause these behaviors. A panel will select papers for presentation at a symposium scheduled for presentation in May, 1986. The planners hope that the call for papers will foster discussions and sharing of ideas that will improve personal safety on campus.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The following conclusions and recommendations to the Chancellor are based primarily on the campus reports, although they also reflect the staff's participation in, or feedback from, discussions of personal safety issues by other University groups mentioned in the preceding sections. Because the scope of coverage and quantity of detail provided in the reports varied greatly—from sparse in a significant number of instances to extensive and exemplary in a smaller percentage—these conclusions and recommendations rest on evidence reported by less than a majority of the campuses.

Recommendation 1: Copies of this report should be sent to the presidents, or other chief executive officers, with notation that an
adequate beginning on a campaign to improve personal safety on campus has been registered by most and that the effort is expected to continue in accordance with the Memorandum to Presidents dated June 29, 1984. Campuses whose reports the staff views to have been insufficiently detailed or campuses whose advisory committees did not contain women or students will receive special memorandums which list the report topics deemed necessary for University-wide review purposes, such as the composition of the advisory group, a description of personal safety problems perceived by women students and staff, the findings and recommendations of the advisory group, and the campus plans for implementation of those recommendations. Further, it is recommended that all campuses make annual reports to the Vice Chancellor for Employee Relations and Student Affairs showing the progress being made on personal safety committee recommendations.

Some campuses may desire more guidance, such as examples of exemplary reports or evaluative comments about their first reports. The staff assumes that information forwarded by other campuses can be shared, upon request, but in addition,

**Recommendation 2**: The staff recommends that exemplary reports from the campuses be shared with all campuses.

In view of the advisory groups' emphasis on educational approaches to provide information and elevate awareness of personal safety problems such as personal harassment and abuse, campuses should proceed with
implementation of the recommendations set forth in the "Educational Factors" section appearing on the preceding pages. This leads to:

**Recommendation 3:** The staff recommends that the campus administration develop campus programs (seminars and workshops, for example) which utilize educational experiences to promote better interpersonal, inter-group, inter-gender relationships on the campus.

While initial reports have focussed upon physical changes to the campus environs, staffing of public safety and measures to secure buildings, and the need for patrols, future campus activities should address the need for personal and attitudinal changes in personal relationships. The primary mission of the University is education, and that mission should be used to lessen the threat of personal violence.

As reported on preceding pages, many of the initiatives to resolve personal safety problems on campus have come from student groups, student organizations and individual students. This laudable action deserves campus recognition and encouragement. Hence,

**Recommendation 4:** The staff recommends (a) that the University and the campus administrations accord due credit to the student originators and sustainers of programs, materials, and services to improve campus personal safety, (b) that cooperative efforts to achieve this goal be promoted between student groups and campus employees, and (c) that actions be taken to increase a sense of
community which can enhance feelings of safety and security in the campus setting. Finally,

**Recommendation 5:** The Staff recommends that since many of the recommendations of the personal safety committee's recommendations have significant cost implications, that personal safety priorities be given careful consideration in SUNY's annual Budget Request, and

**Recommendation 6:** The staff strongly recommends the continuation of Campus Advisory Committees and continued monitoring of campus personal safety activities and policies through reports to the Chancellor and the Trustees. It is further recommended that a specified format be developed for future reports.

In singling out these conclusions and making these special recommendations the staff does not intend to give the impression that other findings and recommendations earlier summarized from campus reports warrant no further comment and no specific endorsement. To the contrary, the staff endorses the recommendations advanced by the campus advisory groups as delineated in the preceding section on Advisory Group Findings and Recommendations.

An easing of concern for personal well-being should become more evident as campuses continue the actions to improve personal safety which have been reported herein. Some campuses have set a splendid example by giving this matter serious attention long before the calls to do so were issued by the Chancellor and the Board; others, starting later, have made impressive beginnings; still others need to do so.

10/22/85
MEMBERSHIP OF THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON PERSONAL SAFETY

Nell Jackson, Director of Physical Education and Athletics (Chairperson)

Linda Beale, Administrative Assistant to the President, ex officio

Mary Britten, Associate Professor, School of Nursing

Charles Eynon, Campus Maintenance

Robert Fields, undergraduate student

Lloyd Howe, III, Director of Residential Life

Silvia Huber, Assistant to the President for Affirmative Action

Amy Morgan, undergraduate student

Tami Noam, undergraduate student

Gail Reekie, graduate student, Department of History

Ann Rosenthal, Member of the Council of the State University of New York at Binghamton

Patricia Speyser, Associate Professor, Department of English, General Literature, and Rhetoric

Kevin Wright, Assistant Professor, School of General Studies and Professional Education and Department of Political Science
On April 10, Chancellor Wharton—with the endorsement of the Student Association of the State University of New York—encouraged each campus president to establish a task force to look into safety conditions on his or her campus. Noting his confidence that SUNY-Binghamton has a strong safety program already in place, President Clark established the Binghamton task force (see Appendix) on May 31 and asked that it assess the situation on campus and make recommendations regarding the possible improvement of conditions and programs, with particular emphasis on women's safety. The task force was instructed to look both at the physical plant and at the University's escort, training, crime prevention, and other public information programs. The goal was to determine what programs are already in place that contribute significantly to safety on this campus and what areas may not have been addressed adequately. Finally, the task force should put forward proposals for local action to alleviate any problems found.

An extensive review of Binghamton's personal safety programs and policies has revealed a variety of programs addressing personal safety issues from several perspectives. From the presentations and materials that this task force has reviewed, it seems clear that students, faculty, and staff feel safe on campus and generally do not believe that safety is a major concern. As indicated in the discussion of programs directed by the University Law Enforcement Division, there are very few serious incidents—whether physical assaults or traffic accidents—reported on campus; in fact, the number of criminal complaints has decreased in recent years. It is clear that the University has developed strong and effective programs which have created a campus ambience of trust and security.

This is not to say, however, that there are not additional measures which can and should be taken to ensure the continued safety of everyone on the campus. The task force has compiled a list of recommendations touching on many different areas, from publications to facility improvements. One particular aspect of personal safety quickly became the primary focus of concern: acquaintance rape and the many problems associated with it (drug and alcohol abuse, violence in personal relationships, sex role stereotyping and the consequent damaging behavior patterns of both males and females, etc.). These problems must be addressed openly on college campuses, in spite of the extremely difficult task of gathering reliable data. Many of the most important recommendations put forward by the task force deal with the acquaintance rape issue.

In establishing the range of issues it would focus upon, the task force decided to exclude from further review those concerns for which there is an appropriate University body or administrative division for referral, unless the group felt the concern was of a magnitude to require further attention from the task force. Further, the task force realizes the enormous complexity and difficulty in providing additional financial resources to address these issues. Although some of the recommendations in this report can be put into place with little or no funding, others—including some of the most important of the recommendations—will require new resources. It is clear, however, that priorities must be established; therefore, the task force has highlighted those recommendations it considers most essential in the conclusion of this report. Also, the members of the task force will be available to meet with the President at his convenience to discuss any unresolved issues.
SECTION 1. SUMMARY OF EXISTING PROGRAMS RELATED TO PERSONAL SAFETY

Section 1.1 Coordinator for Environmental Health and Safety

In general, administrative responsibility for safety is coordinated through Walter May, Assistant Vice President for Facilities and Operations under Vice President for Administration Arthur K. Smith. Reporting directly to Mr. May are Warren Corderman, Coordinator of Environmental Health and Safety, and John Schwartz, Director of the University Law Enforcement Division. Mr. Corderman's office handles building inspections, emergency systems, fire extinguisher services, response to complaints, training classes (first aid, CPR techniques, etc.) hazardous waste disposal and inquiries under the "right to know" law on toxic substances. In addition, Mr. Corderman is the administrative liaison with various University committees concerned with particular safety requirements: the Radiation Safety Committee, the Science Division Safety Committee, the Art Studio Safety Committee and the Library Safety Committee. Mr. Corderman also deals with questions regarding occupational safety and health hazards.

Section 1.2 Transportation Committee and Off Campus College Transport

In addition to being referred to the University Law Enforcement Division, transportation safety issues come before the Transportation Committee, an ad hoc committee appointed by the President and chaired by the Vice President for Student Affairs, Raymond E. Dye. The committee membership includes student representatives, administrators from the Administrative and Student Affairs divisions, and representatives from Off Campus College (OCC). This group provides an effective forum for discussion of transportation safety issues.

OCC Transport also reviews safety issues relevant to the OCC bus operation, as evidenced by the recent focus on solutions to increased crowding at the bus stops and the need for radios on the busses as extra protection for drivers. OCC Transport brought to this task force a proposal for an additional bus stop, a proposal which will also be presented to the Transportation Committee. We urge that this proposal be taken through channels to see if an additional stop is advisable.

Section 1.3 University Committee on 504 Compliance (Access for the Handicapped)

President Clark has recently re-established the University Committee on 504 Compliance to review the 1978 self-evaluation report, to make recommendations regarding access for the handicapped, and to provide information to the University community on our programs for the disabled. The committee is made up of a broad cross-section of the University community, including faculty, staff, and students. Safety issues of particular concern for the disabled will be brought before this group, which is also advisory to Vice President Dye.
Section 1.4 University Law Enforcement Division

The University Law Enforcement Division (ULED) works in coordination with other administrative divisions in various areas related to personal safety. As indicated by the Division's annual report for 1983 (see Appendix), the number of criminal complaints handled by ULED was down in 1983 from the previous year, with larceny, criminal mischiefs, and harassments constituting the major complaints. ULED is responsible for local, state and federal as well as campus law enforcement, with all officers receiving forty hours in crime prevention training and various in-service programs. ULED's services to the campus include the escort and gate guard programs (see further information below), traffic control, emergency assistance, building security, liaison programs with the community, and lectures and other presentations on campus and in the dormitories.

The task force was impressed with the scope and depth of ULED's programs and officer training, especially given the budget limitations under which ULED operates. The task force's recommendations are designed, on the whole, to strengthen further a highly commendable program.

Section 1.4-1 Lighting Surveys

ULED regularly conducts lighting surveys (see Appendix) of the campus, and officers on patrol pay particular attention to lighting problems. The purpose of a survey is to assess whether lighting installations are adequate for the area and to determine whether fixtures are functioning properly. Results of past surveys have included new spotlights for the College-in-the-Woods (CIW) and the numbering of light poles to facilitate reporting of malfunctions. Since storms, bugs, and other problems can cause dramatic decreases in lighting effectiveness, constant vigilance must be and is maintained. ULED responds rapidly to complaints from students, faculty or staff regarding lighting and acts together with the Maintenance Department to see that defective lights are repaired as rapidly as possible.

Clearly, when new buildings are added to the campus, areas must be re-surveyed to assure that the changes have not created dangerous or underlit areas. During the period that this task force has been in operation, such a survey has been conducted around the new Fine Arts Addition and the Graduate Housing Complex.

Section 1.4-2 Escort Service

The University's Escort Service originated in the early 1970's as Night Guard, a program administered by ULED but funded by Residential Life. Residential Assistants (RA's) in the residence halls served as special watchpersons against smoke, vandalism, and other disruptions. In the mid-seventies, the severe budget problems which affected the entire University led to a reduced budget for Night Guard and the program shifted to a student patrol checking for security and safety problems from 11 p.m. until
a.m., with ULED responsible for hiring and training. Later changes brought about the current Escort Service, with students working in "roving" patrols from 10 p.m. until 2 a.m. assisted by a building guard (if approved in the budget) from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m.: two students are on duty Sunday and Monday, one student and one building guard Tuesday and Wednesday, and three students with one building guard Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. While Night Guard was really a guard service for the residence halls, Escort Service provides an escort from one point on the campus to another in addition to a spot check on halls in the sector. The Escort Service has been a very positive program, leading to greater security for the students and better relations between ULED and the campus.

1.4-3 Gate Guard

uled also runs the Gate Guard program which staffs the main entrance to the campus seven nights a week from midnight until 5 a.m. (all other entrances are closed). A driver must show a SUNY decal or identification card or prove that there is a legitimate reason for him/her to be on campus. The record of vehicles entering the campus has proven useful in tracing crimes. Since 40% of criminal arrests on campus involve people who are not affiliated with the University, the control of the entrance at night is an extremely important factor in crime prevention.

1.4-4 Crime Prevention and Awareness Programs

uled also coordinates various programs intended to increase campus awareness of personal safety issues. ULED has a specialist on rape and sexual assault on the staff who works closely with the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center (a community agency) and makes presentations across the campus. Officers visit the dormitories to give talks and distribute literature and place informational pamphlets at central points around the campus. ULED also takes part in many programs for particular audiences, such as Parent's Day and Orientation. In addition, ULED has an inventory of films which can be borrowed by campus organizations or residence halls to be used in connection with crime prevention or rape awareness programs.

SECTION 2: RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE EXISTING PROGRAMS

Section 2.1 Transportation/Traffic Recommendations

Many traffic tickets issued on campus are for speeding in the 20 mph zones on the southern portion of the main traffic circle around the campus. With increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic on campus, there is widespread concern among all university constituencies that major traffic incidents may occur. The Director of ULED also noted his concern about speeding, particularly in the zones already posted for the lower 20 mph speed. Proposals to add flashers to speed limit signs in those areas have, in fact, already been submitted through channels. In addition, extending the lower speed limit to all campus roadways would significantly reduce the speeding problem and the potential for accidents. Therefore, this task force recommends that the University extend the 20 mph speed limit to all
Section 2.2 Lighting Recommendations

Additional lighting is needed in certain areas of the campus. This task force recommends that the area demarcated by the Engineering Building, Computer Center and Post Office be provided additional spotlights, as well as the area along the older portion of the Fine Arts Building walk heading down to the parking lot through the shrubbery. Other areas, such as the Hinman Parking Lot, the Lower Newing Parking Lot, the environs of the Lecture Hall, the back of the Library, and the new Graduate Housing Complex should be carefully assessed to determine the extent of the need for additional lighting. The low wattage of lights throughout the campus should also be carefully reviewed.

Campus-wide lighting surveys should be publicized so that the University community is aware of this safety program. Similarly, the pole numbering system should be widely publicized, as well as the appropriate procedure for alerting University offices of light system malfunctions.

Section 2.3 Escort Service Recommendations

Funding for the Escort Service should be augmented in order to increase staffing for the service. Budget restrictions clearly limit the effectiveness of the program. Before the cutbacks in the 1970's, the service was budgeted at around $60,000. For the past four years, the Escort Service has operated on an annual budget of $16,000, of which $12,000 has been provided out of Residential Life's budget. Lack of increases in funding to handle normal inflationary increases in costs has made it difficult to continue the service at a reasonable level and clearly does not permit any expansion of staffing. Funds to increase student staff and night guards for the service would allow the following expansion of the service: a) the establishment of a few permanent stations where highest use would be likely, such as the library, b) the re-establishment of a summer escort service, since there are increased numbers of programs on campus during the summer, c) the extension of the hours the service is in operation, and d) the establishment of male-female teams, which would give individuals being escorted a greater sense of security with the escort.

Involvement of the SUNY-Binghamton Student Association in the Escort Service is important as a means to increase student awareness and responsibility. The Student Association should encourage volunteer participation and assist in publicizing the service among students. The Student Association could also take an active role in the formation of a student organization which would operate under the auspices of the Escort Service.
Professors teaching night classes should be asked to mention the Escort Service at their classes.

Section 2.4 Recommendations regarding ULED's Crime Prevention Program

Although ULED currently produces many fine publications, especially on crime prevention, budget restrictions now limit the distribution of these publications and the production of new publications. ULED publication distribution should be increased to allow the entire University community to benefit from publications on crime prevention, acquaintance rape, and similar topics. In particular, further publications (pamphlets and posters) on acquaintance rape should be developed and distributed widely. (For example, the task force reviewed a very effective poster on acquaintance rape currently being produced at another university which is available for publication by ULED.) In addition, ULED should seek marketing assistance from campus faculty and staff in preparing posters and other materials in order to develop a few "catchy" themes and publications for the Escort Service.

Staffing for ULED should be increased. The division should have an assistant to the director, as currently requested by the Division, whose responsibilities would include the development and presentation of women's safety programs, the coordination of crime prevention efforts, and communication with campus media. Crime prevention at this time is being performed by patrol officers who are assigned to buildings as liaison officers. There are usually only two in the field at one time, and each must perform a number of other duties. In addition, the Task Force supports ULED's request for two additional uniformed officers (one for the evening shift and one for the late night shift) who would be assigned to patrol areas on foot and develop liaison and crime prevention duties in the residence halls and state building areas. This additional staffing for ULED would help to give more visibility to the Division on campus and perhaps provide a further means of extending the Escort Service.

Information about ULED and its programs should be more widely available to the campus community, including a listing of the publications and films available through the Division and the other services offered.

SECTION 3: AREAS OF CONCERN WHERE NEW PROGRAMS SHOULD BE INITIATED ON CAMPUS

Section 3.1 New Initiatives in Crime Prevention

Self-defense programs should be arranged regularly on campus, both as credit courses offered through the Physical Education Department and as small mini-courses sponsored by the residential and off-campus college communities. These courses should be offered in the fall and spring semesters at varying campus locations. Assistants in the residence halls who are responsible for the various programs should be made aware of this need and should be provided information on the resources available both within the university and in the broader community, such as the Rape and
Abuse Crisis Center. Programs should be widely publicized, and descriptions of the courses should be available at orientation programs and other programs for entering students.

Installation of blue-light phones in selected areas, as proposed by ULED, should be approved. (See Appendix.) This would provide a system of direct access phones which ring into ULED and identify the location of the source of the call. Blue-light phones have clearly been shown to be effective on other campuses, not only in providing a means for emergency phone calls to go directly to the public safety officers, but also as a reassuring symbol to the campus community about those officers' presence and availability.

Information on and distribution of "panic buttons/shriekers" and similar alarm-sounding devices should be coordinated through the campus bookstore and ULED. Although the University should not be expected to provide these to students free of charge, the devices are relatively inexpensive and provide a needed safety factor to anyone who must move about the campus alone or at night, particularly in the more remote areas. They should be easily available to students, faculty and staff; and their availability should be widely publicized. The campus bookstore should stock these devices, and information about them should be coordinated with other ULED presentations and publications. (See Appendix for illustration.)

Several facility improvements should be made, and—in order to be effective—these improvements must be combined with a "grassroots" effort to cut down on vandalism of such facilities. 1) Curtains or shades should be placed on all ground level windows. In presentations before the task force, residential assistants and students indicated that they feel especially vulnerable when studying alone at night in ground floor areas where they are readily visible to passersby. 2) Safety stops should be added to all ground level windows. Even if all entry doors are locked, the omission of safety stops from ground level windows permits potential intruders a ready entrance. 3) Bathrooms in the residence halls should be clearly marked for the appropriate gender. This provides a legal basis for a charge when someone enters a bathroom marked for use by the opposite gender. 4) Missing or vandalized phones should be replaced or repaired so that they are available in case of an emergency.

Door or phone and/or ID card stickers with emergency numbers should be provided as a means of publicizing the safety services and providing the numbers readily at hand for an emergency. Resident Assistants in the halls play a valuable role in educating students about resources and making them aware of potential problems, but many still leave doors unlocked and are sometimes reluctant to call the escort service. Door stickers listing emergency service numbers (including ULED, Harpur's Ferry Ambulance Service, Escort Service, and High Hopes) and the reminder to lock individual rooms should be available. ID card stickers would be particularly valuable for off campus students and for staff and faculty members.
Installation of a closed-circuit television should be studied further. (The proposal, prepared by ULED, would place a closed-circuit TV camera at the corner of Science II facing the Physical Plant offices and sweeping a wide area from the Graduate Housing to the East Gym, including areas crossed frequently by people coming to the campus from the Colonial residence and by people using the tennis courts. There would be a one-time cost of approximately $25,000 with a $2,500 per year maintenance expense. See appendix for more information on the system.) While recognizing that such a system may contribute to personal safety on campus, task force members were reluctant to fully endorse the installation of closed circuit television without further studies of its cost effectiveness and possible impact on the campus community. Although the camera would not be in a position to view living areas and would only record specific incidents selected by the ULED dispatch officer monitoring it, there are genuine concerns about the possible infringement of personal privacy rights. In addition, measures which are highly visible and personal—such as officers on foot patrol—seem to be more effective in contributing to a general sense of safety and increased awareness of safety programs.

Section 3.2 Acquaintance Rape

Acquaintance rape and the closely related problems of drug and alcohol abuse and coercion or physical assault in relationships between campus acquaintances or friends is the most crucial topic addressed by the task force. The prevalence of date rape, together with the victims' understandable reluctance to discuss the problem, make the issue relevant to every organizational division of the campus, from Residential Life programs to curriculum development.

Clearly, the members of this task force are not experts or professionals on the subject of acquaintance rape, but we have heard extensive presentations from Laurie Dean of Broome County's Rape and Abuse Crisis Center and Nancy Morey, ULED's specialist in crime prevention and rape issues, among others. They have shared with us national statistics, results of various studies on acquaintance rape, and their own experiences in seminars, workshops, and consultation in the community. In addition, we have reviewed numerous articles and brochures on acquaintance rape prepared for distribution to university communities. Included in the appendix are two recent articles on rape on campus and some of the materials given to the task force in the course of these presentations which further support the general conclusions of the task force.

Rape is clearly an important issue for discussion on campus even though reported cases are low. There are two reasons for this. Victimization surveys, which have found a rate of approximately 200 rapes per 100,000 women over twelve years old, indicate that only about one rape in ten is reported to the police. Therefore, what is officially known about this crime only touches its surface. But possibly even more important, the task force recognizes that the problem of sexual exploitation and violence goes far beyond what legally constitutes rape. Studies on college campuses have discovered that both male and female students—in some studies as many
as twenty-five percent—recall instances in which they had committed or had been the victim of sexual assault. It is estimated that only one out of 150 instances of acquaintance rape is reported.

Media images of men and women (and other forms of socialization) encourage aggressive male behavior and passive female behavior. Pressures to conform to these masculine and feminine stereotypes create special difficulties for both men and women when put "on their own" in the university environment. New students coming to a university campus are particularly vulnerable to sexual aggression, in part because they are insecure and uncertain in their new environment. Women in their freshman year are the most frequent victims of acquaintance rape, according to presentations to the task force. Testimony also indicated that women—even those victimized by groups of men—frequently do not talk about incidents they are involved in until months or years later because they fear they may create a disturbance: they tend to submit to the abuse rather than call attention to themselves. Others are unsure that they have been victims, tending to blame themselves for not saying "no" clearly enough or accepting the incident as just part of college dating.

Similarly, men come to the university strongly attached to the socially sanctioned macho image and the still-pervasive double standard of sexual behavior. Men often believe that when a woman says "no" she really means "yes." They feel they must take the sexual initiative even when this means ignoring their partner's wishes. One of the people making presentations to the task force emphasized the need to help men realize that rape is not an act for the sake of sex, but an act for the sake of power and dominance. This is especially clear where men are the victims of other men.

Expectations about campus dating life, societal taboos against open discussion of sexual matters or rape, and the general lack of information about acquaintance rape place a special importance on involvement of the university community in educating men and women out of this potentially dangerous, sexually stereotypical behavior. Programs on these issues should give men and women an opportunity to assess their own attitudes and to challenge accepted patterns of male-female relationships. They should be made aware of the ways in which they can be victimized by their peers and of the resources in the university and broader community which can provide support and understanding.

Section 3.2-1 Recommendations regarding Acquaintance Rape Prevention

Acquaintance rape awareness programs and other programs emphasizing information about rape and rape prevention should be made more prominent on campus. The University should have a staffperson whose primary responsibility is to coordinate these types of programs. (See also the support for an assistant to the director of ULED to be responsible, in part, for awareness and crime prevention programs. It might be possible for the new ULED staffperson to assume these coordinating duties, but clearly, if the ULED position were not approved, the coordinator position would be doubly
important.) This coordinator should serve as liaison with community organizations offering resources and should coordinate efforts of individual units across the campus. This should include coordination of an annual observance of National Safety Week with a "Take Back the Night" march and "Personal Safety Awareness Days" to publicize issues such as acquaintance rape. The coordinator should also develop regular awareness workshops to be given at different sites across the campus. The following ideas illustrate further the kinds of programs which should be initiated to increase awareness.

Orientation sessions should include programs on acquaintance rape, for students and parents alike.

Packets of information for incoming freshmen should include at least one publication on acquaintance rape. This publication should provide a clear definition of the issue and discuss the kinds of situations that sometimes lead to acquaintance rape that young men and women may find themselves in on a college campus.

Self-defense programs, as mentioned under general crime prevention initiatives, are especially important as part of the attempt to raise the level of awareness of this problem. At least some of these self-defense courses should be designed specifically to deal with the acquaintance rape issue in order to alert women to the signals of vulnerability they may inadvertently be giving to others and to alert men to the implications of the sexual power plays common in our society.

Residential Assistants speaking to the task force indicated that there is a sense of heightened sexual excitement in the residence halls after pornographic films are shown on campus. These RAs felt that students are influenced by the films to fall into the role patterns portrayed. A short film drawing attention to the problems inherent in pornographic material should be shown along with the films, or a discussion on sexual roles and power in sexual relationships should be offered after the showing of these types of films. These measures to counter the effects of pornography could be provided by the Women's Center or the Rape and Abuse Crisis Center or similar authorities, possibly in conjunction with the residence halls or with the sponsors of the films.

Pipe Dream, the student newspaper, should be encouraged to work with ULED to publish information on safety issues and acquaintance rape in particular.

Small magazine racks or corkboards should be added to the residence hall bathrooms and supplied with information on crime prevention and acquaintance rape. This program could be initiated in a selected residence hall for a trial period.
Section 3.3 Substance Abuse

Although statistics on substance abuse are not available at this time for this campus, national trends suggest that alcohol abuse is closely related to rape, acquaintance rape, and violence in personal relationships. There is a student organization on campus, Binghamton Alcohol Resources (BAR), which promotes responsibility in drinking and alternatives to social drinking. The staff adviser to the group is an assistant coordinator for one of the residential colleges. In her presentation to the Personal Safety Task Force, she indicated that more information is needed on this campus to understand the extent of the problem here and to evaluate how important a factor substance abuse is in acquaintance rape and other forms of interpersonal violence. This task force therefore recommends that the University establish a special task force to assess the nature of the drug and alcohol abuse problem here and to consider methods of dealing with the situation.

Section 3.4 Unresolved Issues

In the eight months that this task force has been in existence, we have reviewed many aspects of the University's programs relating to personal safety. In order to produce an overview of safety on this campus, however, we could not deal with many issues in depth. We have accomplished an initial assessment, but we believe there are still areas of concern which should be reviewed by a similar group.

For example, we have just begun to realize the importance of understanding acquaintance rape; much more can be done in this area than we have accomplished at this point. Similarly, there are several important traffic issues requiring further study; these include assessing the need for a shuttle bus service to the outer parking lots and the need for bus shelters at various stops, such as along the Bunn Hill access road opposite the Power Plant. There is also a concern regarding the limited availability of on-campus phones and pay phones; apparently, there are only two pay phones not located inside buildings, and on-campus phones are not readily accessible for students who might want to call the Escort Service after classes. In addition, there seems to be a need for greater collaboration between ULED and OCC in identifying safety issues of concern for off-campus students, as well as attention to the means to achieve increased cooperation in safety awareness programs between community organizations (including local police and utilities) and Off Campus College.

In addition, we believe that there is a need for a single university-wide entity to which any personal safety issue can be addressed by members of the University community. A standing committee to deal with personal safety issues would fulfill that function, referring to other groups those issues clearly within their jurisdiction. Therefore, this task force recommends that the President establish a standing committee, advisory to him, to continue to deal with these and other personal safety issues.
SECTION 4: CONCLUSION

As indicated in the initial pages of this report, the University has a number of strong and effective safety programs in place which have created a good environment where there are few reported incidents. Our review has suggested, however, that there are areas where additional measures can be taken. We hope that every effort will be made to secure the necessary resources to put these recommendations into effect, including investigation of innovative alternatives to the regular budget process. Commercial enterprises might be willing to provide door or ID card stickers free of charge, for example, as an advertising promotion. The Legislature could be urged to allocate special funds for personal safety programs. The Student Association could consider allocations from activity fees to supplement and support the Escort Service. Fees collected to cover vandalism in the residence halls might be used to fund the replacement of shades on ground floor windows. Whatever the source of funding, however, we urge that action be taken on each of the recommendations in this report.

We also believe that several of these suggestions are of special importance to the University. Within the context of our studies, we found a special need to increase awareness about certain aspects of personal safety such as acquaintance rape, self-defense, and women's safety issues; and we discovered a widespread concern for staffing and facility improvements that would make safety programs more visible on campus. We ask that the blue-light phone system, self-defense programs, expansion of the Escort Service, acquaintance rape workshops, appointment of a women's safety program coordinator, and increases in staffing for ULED be given immediate attention, along with the establishment of a standing committee on personal safety. We are convinced that each of these initiatives is vitally important to personal safety on this campus.
RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WOMEN'S SAFETY TASK FORCE

Recommendation 1: The Anti-Rape Task Force Van is an excellent service. It provides educational programs and both walk and van escort services. Its use should be even more widely encouraged.

Response: Information on the Anti-Rape Task Force will be distributed by Student Affairs at Resident Advisor training, in the new Housing Student Newsletter, and the new Housing bulletin board system, in addition to the HELP booths in Capen, Harriman, and SAC. Office responsible: Student Affairs.

Recommendation 2: The Anti-Rape Task Force should have a van with an automated lifter to enable it to provide escort service to wheelchair bound students. This is especially a problem for the South Campus where there is handicapped accessible housing within one mile of the campus. The Anti-Rape Task Force currently shares a van with Community Action Corps, which has indicated that they do not share this need. If the Anti-Rape Task Force ever has its own van, the automated lifter should be part of its design.

Response: Van service is funded by Student Association and Sub-Board I, Inc. Funding for a new van with automated lifter might be secured from these student organizations if the need is justified.

Recommendation 3: Provide a bus stop at the loop in front of Alumni Arena so that building and part of the campus is more readily and safely accessible at night and on weekends. This would, hopefully, be done as soon as possible to enable more students and staff to make use of that area of campus safely.

Response: Second semester (Jan. - May, '85) limited service, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., was provided and an average of 70 students per day took the bus. Currently, the run services the rear entrance of Alumni Arena and Parking Lot No. 8. A bus runs every 5 minutes from 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., and every ten minutes from 11:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. On evening test runs to Alumni Arena last year we had no takers, and the Bussing Office has had no specific requests for service this year.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

Recommendation 4: The shuttle buses now stop by Clement Hall on the Main Street Campus only after 5-6 PM. Making this a regular stop by all Main Street buses would enhance the safety of those who live in the dorms or require access to them. An additional stop by Michael Hall, perhaps by request only, would be helpful for students who are sick and go to the University Health Service for treatment. At present, students must walk across campus through construction sites to reach the infirmary.

Response: We have studied the Clement bus stop and continually review the situation in an effort to provide the best possible service in a safe manner. A bus turning south on Bailey Avenue from Clement has to egress onto Bailey Avenue from Michael Road by crossing over the double line at least six (6) feet into the oncoming or north lanes. This, of and by itself, is dangerous, but coupled with the heavy traffic conditions during the daytime hours both north and south, the slow rate of acceleration of a loaded bus and the lack of bus maneuverability, it becomes even more dangerous.

The stretch of Bailey Avenue from Sherman Road to Main Street provides a situation which almost encourages motorists to exceed the speed limit. The incidence of the amount of speeding can be attested to by the number of hours the Buffalo Police spend using a radar unit to enforce the law at this location.

Bailey Avenue is an upgrade from Main Street toward the south, which reduces vision of cars especially small sports models. When winter conditions prevail, snow banks hinder visibility. During winter conditions Bailey Avenue traffic has a more difficult time stopping, and the busses are further impeded in starting up.

Passengers desiring to board a southbound bus coming from Ellicott or Flint Loop during early morning hours will find that the busses are, in many cases, loaded and will be unable to pick up passengers at Clement.

A stop at Michael Hall is not feasible since there is no turn-around; a circuitous route to Clement to Goodyear to Heyd to Main Circle would be required to take the bus back to Diefendorf Loop. However, above and beyond, the busses cannot negotiate without encroaching into the opposite lane the turn at Clement and Goodyear Roads nor the Goodyear-Heyd intersection.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

Recommendation 5: The buses need to operate on schedule, or as close to schedule as possible. There are numerous horror stories of buses being up to an hour late; several coming at once, arriving (whether on time or late) full, so that students must wait, perhaps alone at night, for the next bus; buses not arriving at all, etc. The bus stop at Ridge Lea is often cited by students in their concerns. The bus stop has no shelter and is at a relatively isolated end of the campus, so students tend to huddle in the recessed doorway of the nearest building, perhaps 30 feet away, or even inside the building when possible (4266 Ridge Lea). Often buses do not come to a full stop, but merely slow down, see no one immediately, and drive on. By the time the students in the building or its doorway see the bus and scurry to get it, the bus is pulling away. The Task Force suggests that the bus stop be moved toward the Ridge Lea Road end of Ridge Lea, which is more heavily trafficked, and that a bus shelter be erected at the exact location of the stop; or if the bus pulls up, and that the buses be required to come to a complete stop and wait one full minute, giving students a chance to get to the bus from the building. Another trouble spot is Sherman Road at the Bailey Avenue intersection on South Campus, which isn't wide enough for unrestricted travel, especially during snow season. There is already a "Stop Here" sign, to encourage cars to stop many feet back from the intersection to ease the congestion at the turn from Bailey onto Sherman, but many cars fail to heed the sign and thus make the turn impossible for buses. The Task Force recommends widening Sherman Road. Perhaps this could be included as part of the current construction project. Another bus related recommendation is to have drivers check boarding passengers for valid University at Buffalo identification. This would help decrease the number of non-students who use the buses to gain access to the North Campus.

The Task Force also endorses major bus re-routing to minimize students walking alone at night. The recommendation is that the current shuttles (Ellicott-Hamilton, Main Street-Flint, etc.) continue. Other buses could circle each campus. On the South Campus, for example, the buses would stop at Clement Hall; the Main-Bailey parking lot across from the Windermere loop (for students who use Metro bus to get to South Campus then Bluebirds to get from South to North Campus or Ridge Lea); take Hayes Road to a stop at Townsend (to pick up students who live in North Buffalo within walking distance of the South Campus); again by Parker; and then the current stop at Dieffenbord. On the North Campus, the bus would circle Putnam Way and stop by Lockwood, Flint Loop, Pronczak, and Bell.
Response: Busses are scheduled and for the most part do operate as outlined in the schedules posted. It is true that on occasion, busses become bunched, are late, and may even miss a trip. The foregoing results from many factors such as weather, traffic conditions, accidents on the highway, a bus breakdown, etc. Passengers are asked to report discrepancies in order that our Bussing Office can take appropriate measures to correct the situation. A log is maintained of all complaints received and, in most cases, a written reply is forthcoming.

The Ridge Lea bus stop is located at 4226 Ridge Lea (Library) and is within 20 feet of the building. This stop provides shelter for students within a few feet of the stop, and the bus is able to stop safely and presents no traffic tie up. In addition, future plans for the Ridge Lea campus indicate that the bus stop is in the best location because of the departure of Computer Services and Psychology in the near future. Bus drivers have been instructed to stop and wait for at least a minute at the bus stop.

A bus stop nearer Ridge Lea Road, perhaps at 4230, would become a safety hazard since the bus would have to stop in the traffic lane on a single-lane road.

If bus drivers were to check identification of all oncoming passengers, it would have an adverse effect on scheduled causing delays and would undoubtedly cause student opposition. There presently does exist an informal procedure where drivers call Security for obvious cases.

Circling of each campus: South Campus involves winding through the Main-Bailey, Allen and Abbott Parking Lots. Sharp, difficult turns are involved, which makes it virtually impossible for the bus to follow that route. Busses negotiating through parking lots present a very large safety hazard. To circle the North Campus, Putnam Way involves a narrow roadway, parked cars, pedestrians crossing the road, snow banks, etc., does not lend itself to safe bus travel.

Recommendation 6: Send a letter to all instructors of evening classes and supervisors of staff working night shifts listing safety suggestions such as not walking alone at night, but in a group, making certain each one arrives at the car/bus safely, etc.

Response: Public Safety will prepare a letter for distribution through the Millard Fillmore College Office. Office responsible: Millard Fillmore College.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

Recommendation 7: Advertise the Public Safety number, ext. 2222, as a resource to report safety related maintenance concerns, such as lights out in parking lots. As part of Environmental Design class, a sticker with this and other important information is being designed for classrooms.

Response: Completed -- copy attached. Office responsible: Classroom Scheduling.

Recommendation 8: A regular check of campus lighting, especially in parking lots, with prompt correction of problems already occurs. Once a month the Physical Plant and the Anti-Rape Task Force each check the campuses. The two groups work independently, so there are two checks every month. This practice has proven valuable and should be continued. It, too, needs to be publicized.

Response: No action necessary.

Recommendation 9: To the extent possible, lighting problems which came to the attention of the Task Force were corrected. Lighting circuitry is buried underground and digging is impossible during cold winter months. Also, extremely wet ground may present an electrical hazard and result in further delays to repair work.

Response: No action necessary.

Recommendation 10: Additional advertising of the availability of Public Safety's Crime Prevention Programs so that even more people are made aware of the problems and how they can increase their personal safety is needed. These programs include Self-Defense, Rape Awareness, and General Crime Prevention.

Response: Public Safety will continue its effort to increase publicity concerning crime prevention programs. Office responsible: Public Safety.

Recommendation 11: The Women's Safety Task Force participated in a Health/Safety Day to help make more people aware of personal security issues. This should be a yearly event.

Response: Student Affairs, Health Services and Public Safety will work together to make this an annual affair. Office responsible: Student Affairs.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

Recommendation 12: A date/acquaintance rape flyer was prepared and distributed by the Task Force at the Annual Health/Safety Awareness Week recently. Additional copies should be made available at Information Desks around the campus.

Response: Student Affairs will take responsibility for this distribution. Office responsible: Student Affairs.

Recommendation 13: During campus Health/Safety Week, faculty could be encouraged to discuss safety in their classes, invite appropriate speakers, read and discuss safety related articles, etc., and articles should appear regularly in all campus publications, flyers be distributed, etc., so that the entire campus is regularly reminded of the need to be aware and alert to personal safety issues.

Response: Public Safety will work with Student Affairs and the Faculty Senate to accomplish this recommendation. Office responsible: Public Safety.

Recommendation 14: In educational efforts to increase the University community's awareness of the needs to be careful, a positive approach would be better than a list of "don'ts." Encouraging students, faculty, and staff to see themselves as part of the solution, to be taking an active role in crime prevention, "You can help; lock your door." etc. would be a good way of eliciting cooperation, rather than scare tactics of what can happen if they don't.

Response: A positive approach will be used in future materials. Office responsible: Student Affairs and Public Safety.

Recommendation 15: The entire campus community needs to be educated to its roles, both individually, and as a group, in promoting safety. "Safety is everybody's business." We are not automatically safe because we are on a university campus. Each of us needs to act in accordance with the safety suggestions which have been made (walking in two's or three's at night, locking dorm or office doors during non-busy hours, etc.). And people need to cooperate and help others. A dorm watch, as a special part of the campus community watch, should be developed in the dormitories, and a general attitude of taking responsibility for oneself and others encouraged. Locking outside dorm doors will help but NOT eliminate crimes. Students must take an active role in protecting themselves and others.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

Response: Dorm watch is being established through use of student security aides and additional officers. Public Safety and Housing are developing a plan on dormitory security systems. That plan should be available by January 1986.

Recommendation 16: Perceived versus actual crime is often very different, with errors occurring in both directions, that is, some see the campus as a very safe place and do not take appropriate precautions, while others see it as more dangerous than it actually is, and perhaps stress themselves unduly.

There is a great need for accurate information dissemination to the entire campus community about the actual crime rate and appropriate safety precautions. Some of the suggested efforts to provide this include a regular column in The Reporter and The Spectrum, the two larger newspapers on campus, called Police Blotter, which lists incidents from Public Safety records; weekly dorm bulletins distributed to Resident Assistants for posting on hall bulletin boards, etc.

Response: Public Safety has initiated a column in The Reporter called 2222. Public Safety and Student Affairs will address increased safety information dissemination in the dormitories. Office responsible: Student Affairs.

Recommendation 17: Life Workshops and the Anti-Rape Task Force offer self-defense lessons. These need to be advertised more.

Response: Information on these services is published in the REPORTER and SPECTRUM. In addition, information will be incorporated in Student Affairs publicity materials. Office responsible: Student Affairs.

Recommendation 18: Education and awareness of alcohol/drug abuse issues is encouraged as alcohol and drugs are often involved in acquaintance/date rape.

Response: This will be a priority given the change in drinking laws. Office responsible: Student Affairs.

Recommendation 19: Rape, sexual assault, and harassment awareness training for Public Safety officers, Head Residents, and Resident Assistants will make reporting of these incidents easier for victims, and eventually encourage still more reporting. In addition, the campus community should be continuously encouraged to report incidents of actual and attempted rape and assault with swift, appropriate penalties imposed by campus courts and community police.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

Response: Housing will assign an individual responsibility for security concerns, and this individual will coordinate efforts with Public Safety. Office responsible: Student Affairs.

Recommendation 20: Campus community watch will work if there is a clear, accurate sense that students, faculty, and staff are alert, are paying attention to potential crime, and are calling appropriate authorities in case something or someone looks suspicious. Campus or municipal authorities must respond promptly when called to investigate. Campus representatives, Public Safety and municipal police must communicate and exchange information regularly. Again, court action and sanctions must occur swiftly for maximum effect.

Response: Public Safety meets regularly with other law enforcement agencies. Office responsible: Public Safety.

Recommendation 21: Public Safety does an excellent job of presenting Crime Awareness Programs. Since acquaintance/date rape (between two people who already know each other) is so frequent on campuses, the need for making males and females aware of the attitudes and behaviors which contribute to such incidents is great. The Counseling Service and the Sexuality Education Center are working together to design a program to be presented during Freshman Orientation, Freshman colloquial, (perhaps mandatory) dorm meetings, etc. In addition, student government officials, Inter-Greek Council members, student club officers, and other student leaders should also take part in such programs since these students interact with so many others, and can help make others more aware.

Response: Student organizations will be contacted and asked for their assistance. Office responsible: Student Affairs.

Recommendation 22: Public Safety has just completed Rape Crisis Training, as well as formulating a new policy and procedure for rape and sexual assault victims. Such training should take place at least once a year so that all staff are as effective as possible in working with victims.

Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

Recommendation 23: In addition, Housing and Student Association have just completed a very successful training program for Resident Assistants. The program covered materials on sexual assault, harassment, and rape, both educating and increasing the awareness of the participants around the issues. Again, this should be done at least once every year, preferably during August Resident Assistants' training, or early in the school year.

Response: Housing will take responsibility for continuing this program with the assistance of Public Safety. Office responsible: Student Affairs.

Recommendation 24: Student Association members are also working on a safety awareness program designed to increase the awareness of dormitory students about such issues as locking their room doors at all times, especially before going to sleep, locking the bathroom door when taking a shower during times when few people are about, using the Anti-Rape Task Force van or walk escort service rather than walking alone at night, walking in pairs or small groups at night, locking car doors, parking in well lit areas when at all possible, not studying alone in empty classrooms, not stealing light bulbs from the hallways, etc. Again, this kind of presentation should be made once a semester at mandatory dormitory "floor" meetings. An appropriately modified version should also be developed for commuting students and presented through clubs, University Heights External Affairs Committee, and other groups. Flyers and posters could be distributed through the year as reminders, too.

Response: Housing will take responsibility for continuing program with the assistance of Public Safety. Office responsible: Housing.

Recommendation 25: The Resident Assistants and Head Residents on Main Street have requested that peepholes be installed in their doors. By the nature of their jobs, these people are required to answer their doors at all hours of the night. The peepholes would provide them protection against opening their doors to unknown people and would be desirable for all doors.

Response: The University has requested funding from Central office to provide these peepholes.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

Recommendation 26: Specifically, within Housing, there is a need to improve the information dissemination following major incidents such as sexual assaults, rapes, weapon assaults, etc. Part of the difficulty is in the sensitive nature of the material to be released. Perhaps a joint decision made by Housing, Public Safety, and legal counsel could result in releases circulated to Area Coordinators, Head Residents, and Resident Assistants for posting. Floor meetings could be scheduled for discussion of the event and reminders of safety precautions which might forestall future similar events.

Response: Accurate dissemination of specific information in the hours immediately following crime incidents is impossible. Practice has shown that early facts are very often subject to major revision. However, a plan for the distribution of information of specific information will be developed by Public Safety with the aid of the News Bureau, Student Affairs and Legal Counsel. Office responsible: Public Safety.

Recommendation 27: While it is suggested that first floor dormitory windows be equipped with locks which discourage outside entry, Public Safety points out that there have been no reported window entries; students leave their doors unlocked and thus provide easy and safe access to their rooms for criminals to take advantage of. Stickers reminding students to lock their doors are being made up for each dormitory room door.

Response: No action necessary.

Recommendation 28: There is a need for locks on the inside of all dormitory bathroom doors. Some bathrooms in Governors Hall already have such locks. People taking showers very late at night, early in the morning, or other times when there are not many others awake or in the area are very vulnerable to someone entering the bathroom and harassing or assaulting them. Housing/Public Safety have incident reports of such occurrences. In addition, students need to be reminded and encouraged to use the bathroom locks, and to lock their own room doors as well, while they are in the bathroom.

Response: Review of this recommendation by Public Safety, Housing, and Student Affairs was underway prior to the release of the Task Force report. A specific proposal on installation, effectiveness, and cost will be available by December 1986. Office responsible: Student Affairs.
Response to Recommendation of the Women’s Safety Task Force 11

Recommendation 29: Develop an Evening Car Pool for student, faculty, and staff who attend classes and or work evening hours.

Response: Little or no interest has been shown for programs of this type in the past. However, if a need develops, a ride board system could be re-established in Harriman and SAC.

Recommendation 30: Schedule evening classes in a centralized location whenever possible rather than scattered throughout different buildings.

Response: This is done whenever possible. Office responsible: Classroom Scheduling.

Recommendation 31: Mirrors should be installed in any elevators on campus which have narrow entrances compared to the width of the elevator so that one can see into the elevator to be certain that no one is hiding in the elevator before boarding. The mirrors should be of highly reflective metal, rather than glass, and well attached so that vandalism is minimalized.

Response: This recommendation requires the identification of specific elevators and areas. Office responsible: Public Safety.

Recommendation 32: A blue light telephone system of some sort would be desirable. Unfortunately, the Task Force Committee members responsible for reporting on this did not complete their efforts, so that the specific type of system and where units should be located still needs to be determined.

Response: Based on information from other campuses, security telephone systems have high purchase and maintenance costs and limited usefulness. Unless the Task Force has information to the contrary, this recommendation will not be implemented.

Recommendation 33: There is a definite, strong need for additional Public Safety Officers, especially women.

Response: Additional officers have been requested in the University’s 1986/87 Final Budget Request.

Recommendation 34: The arming of Public Safety according to State and Local guidelines is recommended by six of the twelve members of the Task Force who voted, with four against and two abstaining.

Response: This issue is being addressed by the Office of the
Recommendation 35: The Anti-Rape Task Force is exploring an Ellicott Complex location for its escort service desk.

Response: No action necessary.

Recommendation 36: All new lights installed on any of the campuses should be the high pressure sodium kind which are highly efficient yet provide good color rendition and continue to produce a nearly constant lighting level as they age. Also, already installed lights should be replaced by the high sodium kind when they need repair or replacement.

Response: This is being accomplished. Office responsible: Physical Plant.

Recommendation 37: More campus phones should be installed in public areas of Ellicott Complex and other buildings.

Response: See response to Recommendation No. 32.

Recommendation 38: Research has already established that rapid transit end stations have a higher crime rate than other stations; although the station is not open yet, Public Safety and the campus community need to be alert to the possible problems that will come with the rapid transit end station located on the South Campus.

Response: Public Safety is aware of this, and will develop appropriate plans for staff development to address this problem.

Recommendation 39: The campus generally has good access for handicapped persons and is relatively safe, although the visually impaired are encouraged to have guide dogs whenever possible to thwart attackers.

Response: No action necessary.

Recommendation 40: There is a need for speedy enforcement of campus rules and regulations. Currently, the University's court system is not well known. It needs more publicity so that people are aware that there are sanctions for misconduct and that those sanctions will be swiftly imposed. Sanctions
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

for misconduct will act as a deterrent to students and non-students alike and make the campus "unfriendly" to criminals. Publishing names of offenders, especially students (as opposed to non-students) in the Police Blotter column of the campus newspaper, would also show that the campus community will not tolerate criminals or make it easy for them to continue their activities, at least on campus. All three courts need to act more swiftly and publicly than they currently do.

Response: Generally agree. Over the past two years a number of steps have been taken to improve the University's enforcement system. These include the reassignment of the Committee on the Maintenance of Public Order, an establishment of a Housing court system, Guilty Plea System, Fire Safety Program, and other steps. However, more can be done. Improvements will be made in 1985/86. It should also be noted that campus judicial systems have traditionally been operated on a basis of educational/rehabilitative justice, not punitive measures. However, as times change, so do the demands on the judicial process and that is why the process will be revised again for 85/86.

Recommendation 41: A Women's Safety Committee, consisting of about six representative students, faculty, and staff, should be appointed to continue the efforts started by the current Task Force. The campus needs a central, designated group to whom to suggest further improvements as they become indicated, and to coordinate the programs, literature, speakers, etc., already identified.

Response: A personal safety committee is needed. The continuation of the Task Force, in some form, would show University concern and commitment for these issues and should be used to coordinate general safety programs.

Recommendation 42: The Computing Center satellite the South Campus is currently located in the basement of Crosby Hall and is totally isolated from the rest of the campus now that the building has been vacated of all other offices in preparation for renovation. The unit needs special attention from Public Safety because of its isolation. It is recommended that when the Computing Center satellite is relocated that the new location be in a highly trafficked area, since users, operators, and consultants are in the satellite until it closes at midnight.

Response: If and when the satellite is relocated, it will be a highly trafficked area.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force

**Recommendation 43:** Bethune Hall needs its security alarm system reconnected to the South Campus Public Safety Office. The alarm has not functioned since Thanksgiving. Additional Public Safety Aides could be used here too.

**Response:** There is no alarm at Bethune which connects to the Security Office. The alarm system at Bethune itself is operable. We now have two security aides instead of one regularly on duty at Bethune from 3:00 p.m. until the last bus leaves.

**Recommendation 44:** Abbott Library now closes at 9:00 p.m. Students who are accustomed to studying late in that library sometimes now use classrooms which are often deserted and isolated, a very unsafe practice. Signs should be posted by the library staff in Abbott reminding students that the Health Sciences Library in Kimball Hall is still open until 11:00 p.m. and that studying in a vacant classroom is unsafe and unwise. This should be done promptly.

**Response:** Students can no longer emigrate from the Main Street Library to the Health Sciences Library in Stockton Kimball Towers because that building has been locked up and is no longer online Library space. However, with the opening of the new Abbott Library, we will take action to indicate the present availability of study space in that particular facility; and note on the signage that studying in a vacant classroom is thought to be unsafe and unwise.

**Recommendation 45:** The South Campus needs more and better signage to guide people through the construction sites. Reflective signs would enable people to thread their way through the fences and around holes more safely at night. The Task Force recommends that Maintenance implement this as soon as possible.

**Response:** There is already significant improvement here, and there will be even more by the time snow is on the ground.

**Recommendation 46:** The Student Public Safety Aides are doing a fine job of being "eyes and ears" for Public Safety. Student volunteer aide groups, recently reported in South Campus dorms, highlight the need for more trained and supervised Student Public Safety Aides. Housing is already working on a plan to provide a single room or priority in the lottery for rooms for the following year to volunteers who wish to be Aides. The Task Force recommends continuing this practice so that
volunteers are screened, properly trained and supervised. Students should not be performing professional peace officers' duties; they should be patrolling dormitories to deter crime, noticing people who do not belong in the area, or who are behaving suspiciously, and calling Public Safety when action is indicated. A ratio of one Aide per building per quad in Ellicott is suggested with a similar ratio for Governors and the South Campus dorms.

Response: Public Safety and University Housing will be working together to expand this program in the dormitories. Office responsible: Public Safety.

Recommendation 47: Alumni Arena has already been reviewed with personal safety in mind. There are no outside door handles except for the front entrance doors. There is controlled access from 3:00 p.m. until closing. Paid student aides check for identification at the front desk. Public Safety Aides patrol the halls and will ask unauthorized people to leave, calling Public Safety for back up when needed. Both gyms and locker rooms are patrolled. Nevertheless, some students have requested additional aides to patrol the locker rooms, especially during periods of low use. Perhaps a woman could be on duty at all times in the women's locker room, as one was at Clarke Gym.

Response: At this time no further security measures seem necessary. Future uses of Alumni Arena may require changes. This will be monitored by Public Safety and RARI. Office responsible: Public Safety.

Recommendation 48: It is recommended that Resident Assistants not have pornographic or sexist materials displayed in their rooms so that students will be more comfortable in reporting rape, sexual assault, or harassment to them. Every effort to select Resident Assistants who are sensitive to issues of personal safety should be made, in addition to the training already mentioned being provided to enhance the awareness.

Response: Resident Advisors will be instructed accordingly, and if violated, corrective steps will be taken. Office responsible: Housing.

Recommendation 49: Dormitory locks on South Campus residence halls which already have them should be converted to the dead-bolt kind.

Response: Dead bolt locks have serious security and fire safety concerns which would need to be addressed prior to implementation of this recommendation.
Response to Recommendation of the Women's Safety Task Force 16

Recommendation 50: In addition to the campus-wide Health/Safety Awareness Day(s), a Safety Awareness Week should be developed specifically for the dorms to promote increased awareness and provide education about personal safety, especially those issues which are unique to the dorms.

Response: University Housing will work with Public Safety on the implementation of this proposal. Office responsible: Housing.

Recommendation 51: A specific staff member for each dorm area could be delegated the responsibility of coordinating all aspects of personal safety education and training for that area.

Response: Housing will identify one central staff member and specific "Safety Network" coordinators for the dormitory areas as part of the 85/86 Housing program. Office responsible: Housing.

Recommendation 52: The development of an extensive poster campaign such as Public Safety's anti-vandalism project to remind the campus community to take appropriate safety precautions, provide information on services, and encourage victims to report crimes.

Response: Public Safety will develop such a program. Office responsible: Public Safety.
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE AT OSWEGO

WOMEN'S SAFETY TASK FORCE

Final Report and Recommendations

Spring, 1985

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OUTLINE

I. INTRODUCTION
   A. Purpose of the Task Force
   B. Historical Perspective
   C. Membership of the Task Force
   D. Focus of the Task Force

II. OPPORTUNITY REDUCTION REPORT
   A. Present Situation
   B. Recommendations

III. VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT
   A. Present Situation
      1. Rape Crisis Hotline
      2. Walker Counseling Center
      3. Walker Health Center
      4. Department of Public Safety
      5. Dean of Students Office
      6. Residence Life and Housing
      7. Affirmative Action Office
      8. Student Association Volunteer Ambulance Corps
      9. Community Resources
   B. Recommendations

IV. EDUCATION AND PREVENTION REPORT
   A. Present Situation
   B. Recommendations
   C. Implementation
   D. Cost

V. OTHER CONCERNS

VI. FUTURE OF THE TASK FORCE

VII. ADDENDA
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
COLLEGE AT OSWEGO

WOMEN'S SAFETY TASK FORCE
Final Report and Recommendations
Spring, 1985

I. INTRODUCTION
A. Purpose of the Task Force

In response to a request from SUNY Chancellor Clifton R. Wharton, Jr., an advisory task force was convened on the Oswego campus at the beginning of the 1984-85 academic year. The charge of this group was to address the issue of personal safety on campus, focusing in particular on women's safety concerns. The Task Force has addressed the topic in a systematic manner, exploring the present quality of safety on campus and exploring measures to address specific concerns. This report will briefly outline the present situation at the College at Oswego and summarize the committee's recommendations for the future.

B. Historical Perspective

Although the Women's Safety Task Force was not created until the fall of 1984, there have been other efforts at the College at Oswego which have preceded this group. Past awareness and action concerning the issue of violence against women have included a Student Association resolution of November, 1983 denouncing violence against women (Addendum A), as well as a 1983 resolution passed by the Faculty Assembly affirming the importance of confronting causes and effects of violence against women and urging the creation of a Faculty Assembly Task Force on Violence Against Women. A Faculty Assembly Task Force was formed during the fall of 1984 and is focusing specifically on classroom climate and the academic and curriculum components related to the issue of violence against women. A resolution from this group has been presented to the Faculty Assembly for their consideration (Addendum B).

Other efforts have included a 1982 Faculty Assembly Student Services Council Survey on Sexual Harassment which was replicated in 1984 with modifications, CSEA workshops on sexual harassment in the spring of 1984, and the development and distribution of a brochure on rape, battering and incest entitled "Breaking the Silence" (Addendum C).

A rape crisis center has been in operation on campus since the early 1970's and two groups, Women Against Rape and a Men's Awareness Group, were formed in the fall of 1983. Women Against Rape included faculty, students, staff, and community members and organized a Take Back the Night March during the spring of 1984.

C. Membership of the Task Force

The Women's Safety Task Force includes professional staff from the Dean of Students Office, Department of Residence Life and Housing, Department of Public Safety, Physical Plant, Student Union, Student Advisement Center, and Library; student representatives from the Rape Crisis Hotline, Women's Center, Student Association, Residence Life, and Women's Honor Society; and a faculty representative from the Philosophy Department. This report is a synopsis of the cooperative efforts of this broad-based group.
D. Focus of the Task Force

The efforts of the Task Force fall semester focused primarily on an assessment of the current level of women’s safety on the Oswego campus. Initially, the task force divided the scope of its activity into four broad topic areas which included: Review of the Physical Plant and Environment, Review of Existing Programs and Services, Review of Policies and Procedures, and Development and Implementation of Educational and Awareness Programs.

At this time the Task Force identified the following goals: (1) to make recommendations and take action toward creating a safer environment for students (whether in campus buildings, on campus grounds, or in the community); (2) to make recommendations and take action to upgrade existing programs and services which address the issue of violence against women, especially in the areas of prevention and victim assistance services; (3) to review and revise existing policies and procedures to be sure they promote a proactive approach toward women’s safety, as well as provide sensitive and effective means for assisting any victim of a violent act; and, (4) to increase student awareness and knowledge about the issues of women’s safety through both ongoing and periodic programs.

At the end of the fall semester the Task Force decided to reorganize and consolidate efforts. Three sub-committees were established entitled Opportunity Reduction, Victim Support Services, and Education and Prevention. The Opportunity Reduction group focused on campus environment (lighting, walkways, bus services, foliage, parking, telephones), building security, campus police patrols, escort services, and other safety precautions; the Victim Support group concentrated primarily on short and long term counseling and victim advocacy (police interviews, medical, legal); and the third committee, Education and Prevention, addressed the issues of prevention (eliminating behavior that threatens women’s freedom), education, and awareness.

These three groups focused on the concerns identified during the fall fact-finding efforts of the initial sub-committees, and, mindful of limited funds and personnel, proceeded to generate concrete recommendations for the future. These sub-committee reports and recommendations are summarized in the following pages.

II. OPPORTUNITY REDUCTION COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Present Situation

1. Patrols - Current staffing of the Department of Public Safety provides adequate preventative patrol and access to professional law enforcement assistance when needed. In addition to uniformed mobile and foot patrols, Public Safety Officers make use of unconventional patrol techniques such as plain clothes foot patrol, bicycle patrol, unmarked vehicle patrol, stakeouts, etc. to deal with specific needs as they arise.

2. Lighting/Parking - The committee toured the campus on foot at night to assess the need for additional lighting or grounds grooming in and around parking areas. Additional lighting around the library, with an added fixture flooding the Lakeside athletic field has already been recommended and completed!

3. Building Security - Regular checks of all buildings are currently conducted by both Public Safety officers and persons responsible for individual buildings. It appears that the greatest deterrent to maintaining secure buildings is lack of concern on the part
of members of the college community. In some areas it is the common practice of building users to leave doors and/or windows ajar.

A building coordinator is currently identified for each non-resident hall. The building coordinator meets periodically with the physical plant director to address safety concerns. For example, the Library coordinator will be discussing the safety concerns of personnel responsible for late night Library closings.

4. Transportation - The college is served by both a free campus bus and the Oswego public bus system, Centro. The campus buses make continuing loops of the campus from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Monday - Saturday when school is in regular session. Centro services the campus seven days a week while school is in regular session (Monday through Saturday during breaks) with frequent loops around the perimeter of the campus and special service for weekend evening hours.

5. Escort Service - A volunteer escort service (Student Evening Escort Patrol - SEEP) has existed intermittently. At present, it is not well publicized and is underutilized.

B. Recommendations

1. Patrols - Supplement current campus police patrols by hiring and paying students to work part time out of the Department of Public Safety. Two teams of two students each would work every night of the week (eight hours each night), and would provide an escort service as well as an additional resource for the Department of Public Safety. The cost of a student patrol program is estimated to be $15,000 for the first year. This figure includes wages for students, cost of training, and some basic supplies.

2. Lighting/Parking - Improve campus lighting by implementing the committee recommendations on lighting needs (Addendum D), and increase patrol and escort services (through student patrols). Funding for lighting improvements will be submitted to the 1986-87 Capital Budget.

3. Building Security - Concentrate on educational efforts to increase awareness and cooperation on the part of the campus community.

   Install locks for first and second floor windows of residence halls, including pedestrian tunnels. Locks are currently being designed with installation projected for summer, 1985.

   Install door alarms or "emergency exit only paddles" in residence halls on the ground floor doors which are not used as regular exits.

   Explore the possibility of installing card ID door openers for residence halls and academic buildings (especially Snygg Hall, which houses the 24-hour access computer terminals). A budget for new hardware and/or security systems needs to be established.

4. Additional Recommendations - The committee recommends the installation of an emergency phone system identified by blue lights on campus (see lighting diagram, Addendum D for locations). This plan would be modeled after the blue phone system presently in place at Cornell University, and could be utilized to provide both information and emergency assistance.

   Strengthen the Student Evening Escort Patrol through improved recruitment and training of volunteers, increased publicity and campus awareness, and provision of options for pay or academic credit for leadership positions.
III. VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Present Situation

1. Rape Crisis Hotline - The College at Oswego Women's Center has a rape crisis hotline which started November, 1984 and offers callers information/referrals, crisis intervention, peer counseling, and advocacy. The hotline is staffed from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m. weekdays and 24 hours on weekends. The hotline is entirely student staffed and is the only service available (both on campus and in the community) which provides crisis intervention specifically for victims of rape or sexual assault. The hotline staff offers a training program for new advocates once each semester.

2. Walker Counseling Center - The Counseling Center is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays and will provide crisis intervention counseling, as well as follow-up counseling for victims of rape, battering, and incest. There are several women counselors available to counsel women who are victims of violence, although no one specializes in this area. When appropriate, counselors will refer rape victims to the Oswego Hospital (for medical attention and collection of evidence), the Department of Public Safety or Oswego City Police (for reporting), and/or the Rape Crisis Center (for peer counseling and advocacy). Counselors will also refer clients who are victims of battering and incest to the College at Oswego's Women's Center for additional information and support.

3. Walker Health Center - The Health Center is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays. The Health Center does not have the lab equipment necessary for immediate examination/evidence collection in case of rape and will transport a rape victim to the Oswego Hospital unless medical care is necessary. The staff is sensitive to the needs of rape victims, can be relied upon to act appropriately in emergency situations, and is familiar with the legal aspects of treating a rape victim. The Health Center is also able to provide follow-up examinations (four to six weeks after an assault) or non-emergency care (at least 24 hours after the rape).

4. Department of Public Safety - The Campus Police provide the only 24-hour campus telephone line. Students can call the Campus Police to report an incident of violence and receive assistance, or to receive information on how to contact the Student Services staff member on call. The College at Oswego Campus Police presently have only one female officer, and she is not yet certified to handle the investigation of sexual assault. The department does have a policy on responding to a reported rape (Addendum E).

5. Dean of Students Office - In addition to overseeing the efforts of other offices which provide victim support (Counseling and Health Center, Residence Life and Housing), the Dean of Students Office coordinates a weekly on-call schedule of Student Services staff. Monday through Thursday there is a hall director on call from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 a.m., and on the weekends there is a professional staff member on call from 4:00 p.m. Friday until 8:00 a.m. Monday. All hall directors have received some training in providing support to victims of rape and sexual assault.

6. Residence Life and Housing - As mentioned above, all hall directors have received at least minimal training in responding to victims of rape and sexual assault. Resident Assistants have also received the same training. Because of the large on-campus population and the accessibility of residence hall personnel, these individuals are often
very good "first contacts" for victims of violence. Residence Life and Housing also has a policy for staff members on responding to the victim of a sexual assault (Addendum F).

7. Affirmative Action Office - This office provides assistance to students and staff who feel they have been discriminated against in situations of sexual or gender harassment.

8. Student Association Volunteer Ambulance Corps (SAVAC) - This service provides emergency medical care and transportation to the Oswego Hospital during regular school session.

9. Community Resources - There is no rape crisis center in the Oswego community. There is a 24-hour hotline, but volunteers are not trained specifically to deal with rape/sexual assault. Victims are generally referred to community support agencies (hospital, police, legal) through one of the above campus support services.

B. Recommendations

The goal of the Victim Support Services Committee is to assure the provision of 24-hour, year-round support services for the victims of rape or sexual assault.

1. Establish two paid student coordinator positions for the Rape Crisis Center and Hotline. These students would report to the co-coordinators of the Women's Studies Department and the faculty advisor for the Women's Center. Ideally, student coordinators would be paid through temporary services for a maximum of 20 hours per week at $4.50 per hour. These students would coordinate the efforts of the Rape Crisis Center and Hotline during the fall and spring academic terms. A job description has been developed with specific responsibilities (Addendum G).

2. Develop a system of response for vacation periods and summer sessions. Possible options include utilizing campus police or the 24-hour community hotline for direct assistance or referral, utilizing on-call Student Services professionals, and/or establishing a resource list of women from the campus and community willing to respond to crisis calls during vacation periods and/or act as a back-up to the Women's Center during the academic term.

3. Assure that all crisis contact volunteers receive advocacy training, whether serving as a rape crisis hotline advocate or a vacation back-up. Provide additional training for support staff in all offices that are potential contacts (see section on present situation).

4. Provide wide-spread publicity on the availability of victim support services on the Oswego campus. Include information on the Rape Crisis Hotline, Campus Police, and SAVAC, as well as alternative options for vacation periods and the summer months.

IV. EDUCATION AND PREVENTION COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Present Situation

Attempts at education and awareness have occurred but have been relatively piecemeal in their approach. The overall goal of the Women's Safety Task Force is to institutionalize and systematize the recommendations of the sub-committees, although there have already
been come notable, though isolated, activities and initiatives generated as a result of discussion in the Task Force.

In the past academic year, these efforts have included a rape safety workshop sponsored by the Newman Center, the publication of a special issue of Student Notes addressing the topic of violence in male/female relations, programs on rape and sexual assault for some athletic teams and residence hall groups, and an advocacy training program each semester for Rape Crisis Hotline volunteers. The Department of Residence Life and Housing has developed a sexual assault information policy for staff and provided training on sexual assault and reporting procedures for all Resident Assistants, Hall Directors and central office staff. Public Safety has also developed procedures for campus police officers on responding to a reported rape or other serious sex offense. In addition to these efforts, several staff members attended related conferences during the fall semester ("The Problem of Rape on Campus"--Boston, and "Violence in Male/Female Relations"--Oneonta).

The college also offers a brochure on rape, incest and battering ("Breaking the Silence"), a self-defense course through Men's Physical Education, a course on Family Violence through the Sociology Department, and a variety of ongoing martial arts programs.

At the present time there is no printed information which focuses on safety tips, or films and videotapes which address the issues of violence against women. In-hall or on-campus educational programs are few and far between, and there is no comprehensive plan to coordinate the efforts of different groups. The issue of prevention has not been addressed effectively at any level.

The prevention of and education about sexual violence, intimidation and coercion in their various forms are intimately linked. True prevention requires a constructive change in the relation between men and women. A change of this kind and magnitude requires an understanding of sexual violence, intimidation and coercion, their place and functioning in the relation between the sexes, and why they are unacceptable.

Because of the nature of college communities, any educational effort undertaken by the college must be a sustained and continuous effort. This means a long-term institutional commitment that is reflected in the actual responsibilities undertaken by the college as an institution. The following recommendations and implementation plan assume this.

B. Recommendations

1. Produce, widely distribute, and make easily available, materials that explain what constitutes sexual violence, intimidation, and coercion, and why they are unacceptable. In addition, describe medical, police, and judicial procedures and provide safety and emotional support tips.

2. Develop and provide standardized workshops concerning sexual violence, intimidation, and coercion. The workshops would be of two varieties--general awareness and specific topics--and designed to accommodate women only, men only, and co-ed groups.

3. Establish and develop a library and media selection of materials concerning sexual violence, intimidation, and coercion.

4. Develop and provide all college programs such as speakers and media presentations whose focus is sexual violence, intimidation, and coercion.

C. Implementation
1. Implementation would be in three stages:
   a. Development of materials, workshops, recommendations for library and media
      acquisitions, recommendations for all college programs, yearly calendar of
      events.
   b. Preparation, design, and printing of materials, selection and training of
      workshop leaders.
   c. Execution
      (Implementation would be accompanied and followed by evaluation.)

2. Responsibilities for implementation would be as follows:
   a. Development and Evaluation - Education and Prevention Committee composed
      of representatives of the institution responsible for preparation and
      execution stages, accountable to a larger committee overseeing the full
      effort of the college concerning the subject.
   b. Preparation and Execution
      (1) Materials and Workshops
         overall coordination
         Dean of Students
         distribution
         of materials
         to students
         (Advisement
         Center)
         to non-students
         (Personnel)
         provision of
         workshops
         on-campus
         (Res.Life)
         off-campus
         (Union)
      (2) Library and media resources: Library
      (3) All college programs: Education and Prevention Committee with Student
         Association

D. Cost

The cost of implementation of the above recommendations are minimal as added costs to
the current budget and consist of cost of initial and continuous production of materials
($1,500 for 20,000 copies, plus no more than $500 each year in the following years).

V. OTHER CONCERNS

A. Policies and Procedures - During the fall semester, the Task Force requested
policy statements or documents related to women's safety and violence against women from
a number of different campus departments and organizations. Policies and procedures from
the Campus Police, Health Center, Counseling Center, and Residence Life, as well as the
campus disciplinary code and affirmative action grievance procedures, were forwarded to
an attorney for review. Policies and procedures were reviewed individually and as a
comprehensive whole. It appears that, while progress has been made over the past year in
developing internal procedures, the College still needs to address the need for a coherent
and comprehensive institutional policy which coordinates the efforts of these separate
groups.

B. Uniform Reporting - A review of the above procedures also addressed the need
for uniform reporting procedures for the campus. Issues include articulating one central
place where everyone reports (even if the complaint is anonymous), and defining criteria
for what is reported.

C. Statistics - Uniform reporting procedures would, in turn, assist the college
community in keeping accurate statistics on the number of incidents of violence against
women, as well as the nature of these incidents. It is critical that reports be classified
with the need for this information in mind, and that incidents of violence not be buried in
more general categories of offenses. (See Addendum H for suggested categories.) All
departments should endeavor to keep statistics on contacts with victims of violence, as
well as statistics on the chain of referral. At this time, it is extremely difficult to get an
assessment of the occurrence of crimes of this nature and information becomes largely a
matter of rumor and accusation.

D. Course Development - The Task Force is concerned that the college catalog
only lists one course which deals explicitly with the issue of violence against women (a
course on Family Violence through the Sociology Department). Although there may be other
courses in which the issue is addressed (but buried in the curriculum), the academic
component of the issue is still subject to the interests of individual faculty members. The
Task Force recommends that academic departments develop and institutionalize more
courses which deal with the issues of violence against women.

E. Self Defense Courses - There are a number of different courses offered in
karate and judo, but there is only one self-defense course for credit. There are other
self-defense courses offered through residence halls and individuals, but no coordinated
effort to publicize or promote these offerings. The Task Force believes a more uniform
approach to self-defense classes (focus of the class, publicity, times, locations) might help
to increase awareness and participation.

VI. FUTURE OF THE TASK FORCE

Task Force members wholeheartedly recommend that the work of the Task Force continue
during the 1985-86 academic year. There has been considerable progress in assessing
concerns and suggesting changes for the future, but the most crucial aspect of the
committee's work--implementation--has yet to occur. The Task Force has begun to address
the issues of women's safety on the Oswego campus, but there is still much to be
accomplished.

The sub-committee structure has worked well and should be continued in the future, with
the bulk of the work of the Task Force occurring in small groups. Representatives from
the sub-committees should meet at least monthly as a Task Force for the purposes of
coordination and information sharing. The broad-based membership of the present task force
should continue, while seeking additional minority and non-traditional student
representation.