

Meeting Summary

Date: 9.17.24

Attendees: Shelby Slutzker, Ashley Pelham (SA Chair), Stacey Brezing, and others.

Topic 1: Transportation Updates (Shelby Slutzker)

- **Campus Commute and Parking:** Shelby informed attendees that due to several events and activities, parking and traffic congestion are expected on campus from today through the end of next week. Key facilities impacted include Lot 25, Lot 47, the Pavilion, and the Quad Structure. A link with further details and alternative parking options will be shared shortly.
- **Parking Status Updates:** Starting next Wednesday through Friday, a parking lot fill status chart will be available to help commuters check the availability of their regular parking lots.
- **Transportation Device Registration Pilot Program:** UC Davis is piloting a program offering free registration for all types of transportation devices, including bikes, e-bikes, scooters, and skateboards. This initiative aims to combat theft and help recover lost or stolen devices. Shelby will provide a link for more information and encouraged participants to visit the bike program's office next week for registration.
- **Commuter Benefits Program:** Shelby reminded attendees about the pre-tax commuter benefits program, which includes a reloadable Visa card that can be used for transit or parking. Changes to benefits must be made by the 10th of each month, with changes taking effect the following month. A link with further details will be shared.

Topic 2: Health and Wellbeing Programs (Stacey Brezing)

Stacey provided a brief update on health and wellbeing programs available in the fall for employees and students. Further details were forthcoming.

Closing Remarks: Shelby offered to answer questions on the transportation Slack channel. The next agenda item was led by Stacey Brezing.

Date: [Insert Date]

Attendees: Stacey Brezing, Ashley Pelham (SA Chair), and others

Topic: Health and Wellbeing Programs (Stacey Brezing)

- **Overview:** Stacey provided a brief history of the health and wellbeing programs at UC Davis, noting their origin in a 2015 presentation to the Chancellor. Their mission is to promote a thriving culture of health and well-being, offering programs in nutrition, physical activity, mental and emotional well-being, and stress management.
- **Stress Management Programs:** Upcoming workshops and live sessions will help participants manage stress and promote balance in their lives. Psychologist Dr. Nesha Patel leads mindfulness sessions three times per week:
 - Mondays (4:30-5:00 PM)
 - Wednesdays (12:30-1:00 PM)

- Thursdays (12:45-1:00 PM)
- A "Relax and Release" session will be held tomorrow from 3:00-3:30 PM.
- **Nutrition Programs:** Nutrition services include webinars led by UC Davis dieticians and vetted resources. Two key programs are currently running:
 - **Intuitive Eating Program** (12 weeks)
 - **Diabetes Prevention Program** (year-long, system-wide)
- **Physical Activity Programs:**
 - The "**Road to Paris**" **Virtual Activity Challenge** is ongoing and has seen high participation this fall.
 - A **Tai Chi class** is offered in a hybrid format on Mondays and Wednesdays from 12:00-1:00 PM.
 - The **Gentle Yoga series** will return soon.
- **Culture Change Programs:**
 - The **Healthy Department Certification** promotes health and well-being within departments.
 - Resources include email signature guidelines and an **Out-of-Office statement guide** to encourage healthy habits.
 - The **Healthy Meeting and Event Guide** provides suggestions on sustainable meetings, mindful practices, activity breaks, and healthy food options.
- **Wellness Ambassador Program:**
 - With over 200 ambassadors across Davis and Sacramento, the program promotes health and well-being at the departmental level. Ambassadors can apply for mini-grants of up to \$500 annually and participate in monthly support groups and quarterly updates.

Additional Resources: Stacey provided links to the Well-Being website and a QR code for more information. Connie Tan, the program coordinator, regularly sends out emails summarizing upcoming events and opportunities.

Closing Remarks: Stacey concluded by encouraging attendees to explore available resources and consider becoming Wellness Ambassadors.

Meeting Summary

Date: [Insert Date]

Attendees: Sheri Atkinson (Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs), Lian Boos (Director, Center for Student Involvement), Ashley Pelham (SA Chair), and others

Topic: Freedom of Expression and Protest Management (Sheri Atkinson and Lian Boos)

- **Overview:** Sheri and Lian discussed the management of freedom of expression on campus, particularly in relation to student protests. They emphasized the importance of maintaining a balanced approach that respects students' rights while ensuring campus safety. With an active spring and anticipated increased activity in the fall, especially during the presidential election year, the conversation aimed to share insights on navigating protest management.
- **Student Affairs Response Team:** Sheri and Lian introduced the Student Affairs Response Team, which is responsible for addressing situations involving protests and freedom of expression. They discussed their respective roles and the team's proactive engagement with campus activities related to these issues.
- **Freedom of Expression:**
 - Sheri provided an overview of the 1st Amendment, emphasizing the university's obligation as a public institution to uphold these rights.
 - She highlighted the value of student engagement through protests, which she views as a positive sign of commitment to social change and activism. Sheri encouraged a supportive view of student protests, noting that students often challenge perceived injustices and aim to improve society.
 - The campus provides a relatively safe space for this developmentally appropriate behavior, and student accountability remains integral when violations of policy or law occur.
- **De-Escalation and Campus Climate:**
 - Sheri discussed the importance of de-escalation in handling contentious topics. The university aims to foster healthy and productive engagement while maintaining a positive campus climate.
 - The response team prioritizes understanding each unique situation, including the players involved and the potential risks of escalation. Proactive measures and behind-the-scenes management help ensure that situations do not escalate unnecessarily.
- **Closing Remarks:** The meeting closed with an emphasis on the importance of campus engagement and the team's continued efforts to manage freedom of expression and protest activities. Sheri and Lian highlighted the significant work happening behind the scenes to maintain campus safety and student involvement.

Next Steps: Attendees were encouraged to remain informed about the university's approach to protest management and to reach out with any questions regarding freedom of expression and campus policies.

Date/Time: [Timestamp from the conversation]

Attendees: Sheri Atkinson, Lian Boos, and others

Topic: Campus Policy on Student Expression and Free Speech

Key Discussion Points:

1. **Intentional Decision-Making in Campus Engagement:**

Sheri Atkinson emphasized that while it may appear as though the university is not taking action in certain situations, deliberate decisions are being made to foster student engagement in a way that prioritizes education and safety. The goal is to avoid escalations seen on other campuses by working closely with the police department to ensure safety while minimizing unnecessary interventions.

2. **First Amendment and Its Impact on Campus Policies:**

Lian Boos provided an overview of the First Amendment, noting that public educational institutions, including the university, are bound by it. This means that the institution cannot create policies that infringe upon students' rights to free speech, although it can impose restrictions on the time, place, and manner of expression to maintain the university's educational mission. For example, permits are required for amplified sound on campus to avoid disrupting classes.

3. **Neutral and Content-Free Policies:**

The policies in place, such as those regulating the use of sound or preventing classroom disruptions, are content-neutral. They focus on maintaining an environment conducive to education, irrespective of the content of the speech being expressed.

4. **Principles of Community:**

The university adheres to its "Principles of Community," an aspirational document promoting respect and rejection of discrimination and hate. While not enforceable as policy, it serves as a framework for encouraging respectful dialogue and community behavior. Students and faculty are encouraged to follow these principles not out of fear of punishment but out of a shared commitment to the community.

5. **Hate Speech and Free Speech Protections:**

There was a discussion around hate speech, with Lian clarifying that, while hate speech is broadly protected under the First Amendment, it can only be restricted if it incites imminent lawless action or violence. The university acknowledges that hate speech is often at odds with its principles of community but asserts that countering such speech with more speech, rather than restriction, aligns with First Amendment protections.

6. **Institutional Response to Objectionable Speech:**

The university's stance is that while objectionable speech is protected, it has an obligation to foster an inclusive environment. The institution can use its own voice to condemn such speech while ensuring marginalized communities are not silenced through restrictive policies.

Conclusion:

The university is committed to upholding the First Amendment while fostering a respectful, inclusive community. Policies in place are designed to maintain the educational mission without infringing on free speech. The Principles of Community, though not enforceable, guide the ethical standards expected from students and faculty in their conduct.

Meeting Summary: Campus Student Expression and Response Team Overview

Date: [Insert Date]

Attendees: Lian Boos, Joseph [Last Name], Jose [Last Name], and the campus response team

Purpose:

The discussion centered on the role and responsibilities of the campus response team in managing student expression and maintaining a safe environment for free speech on campus.

Key Points:

1. Understanding Student Needs

- The response team, being closely connected to students, aims to be a student-friendly voice that fosters effective communication through pre-existing relationships.
- The team collaborates with key campus partners, including policy owners and facility managers, to ensure a coordinated approach to student expression.

2. Proactive Monitoring and Engagement

- The team monitors upcoming student events, particularly those organized by student organizations, to anticipate potential demonstrations or expressions of opinion.
- Presence at events is crucial, whether pre-planned or spontaneous, to ensure that the campus is prepared to respond appropriately.

3. Post-Event Reflection

- After every event, the team conducts a post-event debrief to assess the response, note student behavior, and identify trends or challenges for future improvement.

4. Main Responsibilities of the Response Team

- Ensure **student safety** and promote **peaceful participation**.
- Support students' **freedom of expression** by educating them about campus policies.
- Utilize de-escalation tactics to prevent conflict and guide students in managing situations effectively.
- Provide emotional support to students affected by offensive speech.
- Encourage **debate and dialogue**, promoting healthy expression without repression.
- Prevent disruption of regular campus activities by managing protests and demonstrations in a manner that maintains normal operations.

5. Supporting Student Concerns

- The team actively advocates for student concerns, helping connect them with relevant campus departments or resources to ensure their voices are heard. This includes providing alternative avenues for advocacy and building strong relationships with students.

6. What the Team Does Not Do

- The team does not stop student activities or speech but instead educates students on policy compliance.
- They do not make campus-wide decisions regarding student expression—those decisions are made by senior leadership.
- They do not engage in debates or argue with participants; their role is to support expression, policy compliance, and de-escalation.

7. Team Structure

- **Jose**, the first responder, advises student organizations that focus on political advocacy, religion, and ethnic identities. His connection with these groups allows for proactive engagement and support in managing activism and expression.

Conclusion:

The response team is committed to promoting a safe environment for student expression, supporting freedom of speech, and ensuring that campus activities proceed smoothly. The team continually refines its approach through reflection and post-event analysis to improve their handling of student expression on campus.

Meeting Summary:

Date: [Insert Date]

Attendees: Lian Boos, Sheri Atkinson, Ashley Pelham, Scott, Shawn DeArmond, and others.

Topic: Campus Free Speech and Expression Protocols

1. Overview of Response Team Activities (Lian Boos):

- The campus response team focuses on promoting student safety and peaceful participation during events related to free expression.
- The team works closely with student organizations, which often organize events involving free speech or demonstrations.
- The team monitors and anticipates potential events that might attract significant expressions of opinion, ensuring a proactive rather than reactive response.
- A post-event debrief is conducted to reflect on challenges, student behaviors, and to improve future processes.
- The team supports free speech policies, educating students on permissible actions and advising them on de-escalation techniques to prevent conflicts.

- Special attention is given to students affected by offensive speech, offering support and guiding them to campus resources.
- Encouraging debate and dialogue is central, with efforts made to ensure that normal campus activities are not disrupted by protests or demonstrations.

2. **Staff and Student Roles in Free Speech (Sheri Atkinson):**

- Staff and student staff have rights to free expression, but their participation must occur outside their professional roles unless approved by supervisors.
- When engaging in protests, staff cannot represent the university or its viewpoints. Union and labor protests are managed separately from these guidelines.
- For student staff, the distinction between personal expression and their role within university departments must be clear, especially concerning the use of university resources.

3. **Digital Speech and Online Expression:**

- Free expression policies extend to digital and online platforms, including student organizations' social media activities.
- The response team receives reports regarding digital speech and engages in coaching sessions with student groups to discuss the impact and intent of their communications, ensuring they are aware of the implications of their speech, while protecting their rights.

4. **Resources and Support:**

- The team provides resources, including communication protocols, to ensure coordinated responses to student expression.
- Various support mechanisms are in place to assist those negatively impacted by certain speech, even if it falls under protected free speech.
- Contact information was shared for key staff members in case of time-sensitive issues or concerns on campus.

Key Questions Addressed:

- **Student Staff and Freedom of Speech:** Policies for students do not change when they become student staff, though they must separate personal expression from their roles within university departments.
- **Staff Participation in Free Expression:** Staff can participate in free speech activities but not as representatives of the university or while using university resources.
- **Online Speech:** The campus response team addresses issues related to online speech similarly to in-person speech, ensuring it aligns with free speech protections while addressing potential impacts on others.

The meeting concluded with a Q&A session, addressing further questions about the nuances of staff and student participation in free expression, both in person and digitally.

Meeting Summary

Date: September 17, 2024

Attendees: Shawn DeArmond, Sheri Atkinson, Ashley Pelham, Huda Syed, Lian Boos, and others.

Discussion Points:

1. **IET Responsibilities:**

- Shawn DeArmond inquired about the responsibilities of IET (Information and Educational Technology) regarding the moderation and automated scanning of online content.
- Sheri Atkinson responded that while IET does not proactively monitor online content, it collaborates with Strategic Communications to address flagged issues, particularly concerning social media content that may indicate emerging problems or harassment. Such issues may be referred to the Office of Student Support and Judicial Affairs for further evaluation.

1. **Further Questions:**

- Attendees were encouraged to reach out via Slack or email with any additional questions following the meeting.

1. **Upcoming Events and Announcements:**

- **General Meeting:** The next general meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2024, featuring Kim Becker from Fidelity to discuss retirement investments, and updates from TAPS and Gail Brown on the Job Builder communications.
- **Quarterly Update with Chancellor May:** Scheduled for October 30, 2024.
- **Staff Chancellor Meeting:** Open for staff applications, provided the applicant has not attended in the last two years.
- **Tailgate Event:** Set for November 2, 2024. Details to be confirmed and shared in the upcoming Staff Voice.
- **Winter Event:** Scheduled for December 9, 2024.

1. **Additional Notes:**

- Reminder for staff to sign up for Breakfast with the Chancellor via the Staff Assembly page.
- Attendees were encouraged to submit any content or topics of interest for future meetings via a link provided in the Staff Voice email.

Action Items:

- Follow up with Sheri Atkinson if there are further questions about IET's role.
- Attend upcoming meetings and events as scheduled.

- Submit any content suggestions or topics of interest for future meetings.

Meeting Summary

Date: September 17, 2024

Attendees: Shelby Slutzker, Ashley Pelham (SA Chair), Stacey Brezing, Sheri Atkinson (Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs), Lian Boos (Director, Center for Student Involvement), Shawn DeArmond, Huda Syed, and others.

1. Transportation Updates (Shelby Slutzker)

- **Campus Commute and Parking:** Due to ongoing events, parking and traffic congestion are anticipated on campus from today through the end of next week. Affected facilities include Lot 25, Lot 47, the Pavilion, and the Quad Structure. Further details and alternative parking options will be shared soon.
- **Parking Status Updates:** A fill status chart for parking lots will be available from next Wednesday through Friday to assist commuters in checking availability.
- **Transportation Device Registration Pilot Program:** UC Davis is piloting a program offering free registration for all transportation devices (bikes, e-bikes, scooters, skateboards) to reduce theft and aid in recovery. A registration link will be provided, and the bike program's office is available for registration next week.
- **Commuter Benefits Program:** Reminder of the pre-tax commuter benefits program, including a reloadable Visa card for transit or parking. Changes must be made by the 10th of each month to take effect the following month. Further details will be shared.

2. Health and Wellbeing Programs (Stacey Brezing)

- **Overview:** The health and wellbeing programs at UC Davis aim to promote a culture of health and well-being through various initiatives in nutrition, physical activity, mental and emotional well-being, and stress management.
- **Stress Management Programs:** Mindfulness sessions led by Dr. Nesha Patel are available three times per week. A "Relax and Release" session is scheduled for tomorrow.
- **Nutrition Programs:** Current programs include the Intuitive Eating Program and the Diabetes Prevention Program.
- **Physical Activity Programs:** The "Road to Paris" Virtual Activity Challenge, Tai Chi classes, and the upcoming Gentle Yoga series are available.
- **Culture Change Programs:** Includes the Healthy Department Certification, email signature guidelines, and the Healthy Meeting and Event Guide.

- **Wellness Ambassador Program:** Over 200 ambassadors are involved, with opportunities for mini-grants and support groups. Links and resources will be provided.

3. Freedom of Expression and Protest Management (Sheri Atkinson and Lian Boos)

- **Overview:** Discussions centered on balancing student rights to protest with campus safety, especially with anticipated increased activity in the fall.
- **Student Affairs Response Team:** The team addresses protest management and ensures campus safety while respecting free expression. Key components include proactive engagement, de-escalation, and understanding unique situations.
- **Freedom of Expression:** The university upholds the 1st Amendment and encourages student engagement through protests while managing potential policy violations and maintaining campus safety.
- **De-Escalation and Campus Climate:** Focus on de-escalation techniques and understanding situations to prevent unnecessary escalation.

4. Campus Policy on Student Expression and Free Speech

- **Intentional Decision-Making:** The university takes deliberate actions to manage student engagement, focusing on safety and educational priorities.
- **First Amendment Impact:** Policies are content-neutral, ensuring educational mission while respecting free speech. Permits are required for amplified sound to avoid class disruptions.
- **Principles of Community:** An aspirational framework guiding respectful dialogue and behavior, though not enforceable as policy.
- **Hate Speech:** Protected under the First Amendment but can be restricted if it incites imminent lawless action or violence. The university promotes counter-speech and inclusive environments.

5. Campus Student Expression and Response Team Overview

- **Understanding Student Needs:** The response team aims to support student expression and safety, working with campus partners for coordinated responses.
- **Proactive Monitoring:** Monitoring student events to anticipate and prepare for potential demonstrations.
- **Post-Event Reflection:** Evaluating responses and identifying trends for improvement.
- **Main Responsibilities:** Promoting safety, educating on policies, using de-escalation techniques, and providing support without making campus-wide decisions.

6. Campus Free Speech and Expression Protocols

- **Response Team Activities:** The team supports free speech while preventing disruption of regular campus activities and provides resources for handling digital speech.

- **Staff and Student Roles:** Clear separation between personal expression and professional roles; staff participation in free expression must not represent the university.
- **Digital Speech:** Policies extend to online platforms, with coaching provided to ensure awareness of implications.

7. IET Responsibilities and Further Discussion

- **IET Moderation:** IET collaborates with Strategic Communications to address flagged online content and refers issues to the Office of Student Support and Judicial Affairs if necessary.

8. Upcoming Events and Announcements

- **General Meeting:** October 15, 2024, featuring Kim Becker from Fidelity.
- **Quarterly Update with Chancellor May:** October 30, 2024.
- **Staff Chancellor Meeting:** Open for applications.
- **Tailgate Event:** November 2, 2024.
- **Winter Event:** December 9, 2024.

9. Action Items

- **Follow Up:** Contact Sheri Atkinson for questions regarding IET's role.
- **Attend Events:** Participate in scheduled meetings and events.
- **Submit Suggestions:** Provide content or topic suggestions for future meetings.

Attendees were encouraged to reach out with any additional questions or content suggestions.