DormCon Meeting
Date: 09/26/13 Time: 6:00pm to 7:20pm

- All dorms are present

- Dean Humphreys is present to address security issues.
  - Dean Humphreys begins with asking for questions
  - McCormick has met once. McC wants a video demonstration of cameras
  - Maseeh has met once so far.
  - Simmons has met twice

- General confusion regarding what the policies are. What is the plan to make sure everyone is up to speed. Is there an outlet to get clarification for any questions that come up.
  - Allied Barton (?) was reviewed to check if the company was able to work in a higher education environment
  - MIT pays higher wage because of the environment and location
    - The company has been retraining staff on policies to follow since MIT is a significantly different place than other schools that is why there exists inconsistency amongst staff
      - Night staff (who have worked for 15 years) are following different policies than security personnel from the security company
      - Another issue that came up was that security need to be friendly because at MIT the dorms work as homes and authoitarian environments may work at other schools but don't work at MIT
        - An example is a security officer in Baker who came on as a lot stricter and he has been spoken to and he's become nicer
  - POC: your AD and on the security page there is an email address for Dan Rodick (? Check) and he gets the email along with Dean Humphreys
    - If you see a desk person being inappropriate, the recommendation is to go to the dean on call and he/she will contact Dan Rodick and the desk person will be removed from his/her post immediately
    - Example: Simmons – a desk worker was using inappropriate language about another student and that desk worker was immediately removed
  - Unlocked front doors are becoming a concern for some dorms
    - H: the reason for unlocked doors was to keep students from having to double tap to get into dorms and some communties felt like the double tap made the environment seem like it was on lock down
    - If the housemasters request the front doors be locked, then the housemasters should email dean Humpphreys and the doors will be locked

- Katherine: will this be uniform policy across all dorms? H: Each dorm will be given the option. A meeting has been scheduled with everyone involved in the implementation of the new security system and there will be a comprehensive review regarding what is going well, what needs to be changed, software changes etc.
- H: A communications person, Connie, is holding meetings with students to understand what is working and what isn't. Locking the dorms is being worked out with house gov and housemasters.
- Eli/Andrea: Guest lists are not an option at Baker. Complaints from residents are coming up about why only Baker residents are restricted from having guest lists. The house managers said no to the guest lists. H: the option for guest lists is up to the house government and housemasters of every dorm. The housemasters were consulted on to determine the certain parameters that were set for guest lists this year with the new security.
- Andrea: Baker residents have complained about getting rid of the airport security line at desk, getting doors locked. Can we set up a meeting for later? H: That is probably best. We can also show a video presentation of the new changes. If the community comes up with better ideas, the security committee wants to hear about them.
- Eli: General question. For dorms that are in phase two, what is the time line planned for engaging the house government of the houses. H: As far as which houses are going next, we're still discussing amongst all the people involved in implementation to understand the next few steps. What was done so far was a miracle. What was done in eight weeks would take most schools 6 months to a year to get implemented with the few problems we had. We don't know how reasonable it is to push that same amount in the same time period again. We would need to pull together the house governments and students and engage the communities to determine what works and what doesn't. In this folder there are pages documenting how everything was implemented in the eight weeks. Most of the people Humphreys talked with are no longer at the institute. Also, housemasters are not as available during the year and the house teams are busy. To be able to call together the community and house teams will require time.
    - By December, we will engage the housemasters for the next phase. From Jan to June, we will engage the community to talk about how the security is going.
        - We also want to target leadership (sophomores and juniors) to make sure the discussions and ideas are followed through next year.
- Can you describe how you engaged the students in the dorms?
    - Housemasters were given the choice of who to engage. Some houses had just the leadership while other houses engaged all the students in the dorm. Different houses had different concerns.

- East Campus and Bexley will not have anything done security wise to them because of renovations
- Panic button didn't work at (?).
- Documentation was then sent over to dorms after discussions with the individual dorms. We did engage but didn't permeate as deeply as we wanted to.

- Cameras at Next House
  - H: Consultants will be brought in to discuss the placement and orientation. If something happens to a student in the buildings, then the security is directly responsible for it.
    - Where the cameras are placed varies building to building. All the cameras are fixed even though they are in a dome. The cameras cannot rotate. To change the orientation of the cameras, a technician has to go up to the cameras to change orientation. The cameras in Simmons were changed because they were looking at a student's door.
    - We have a lot of policies for the cameras. If someone is getting mugged in front of Next House and someone is holding a beer in front of the camera then would we go after the deterrent? The cameras are there to be used for criminal investigations by the *police department*. The chief of police is the only one who can give authorization over camera information. We're sensitive to the cameras and we're making the consultants aware of that fact. This campus is your home and we're trying to make the cameras as unobtrusive as they can be.
      - Andrea: Dining should also be made aware of this. Dining staff are afraid that I their bosses see any footage then they would lose their jobs.
      - The security questions have been focused on the exterior building. What type of passive security measures within in the dormitory to alert the appropriate people if someone gets into the building who shouldn't be there? H: Last spring, in Princeton, there was a hoax shooter case. They didn't know where and they had all the students evacuated to a football field. It was difficult to get info out to the community. There is a group of people looking at the case. A capability that we have now is the PA system of the fire alarm. We're trying to incorporate a pre-recorded message "shelter in place" if we're on lockdown. Technology wise, we know we have the capability of it being there.
  - There has been a lot of talk about minimum operating standards for security. What are they?

- - - H: If you go to the security website, the security policies minimum has been listed and also where in the policies there is room for modification.
      - For example camera modification is listed.
    - When you spoke to senior house last time, you said the security personnel will not be part of the minimum. H: It has been made clear to us that the security personnel needs to be there. There needs to be a consistent system across campus. Students get busy and the desk personnel all have special security training for emergency situations (first respondent training). To be clear, we will not be taking away any student desk workers. The desk attendants are strictly for security of the building.
  - How will the security changes affect Random? H: It is a very unique building, it will pose some challenges. It is the most public of all of our residences.
  - BC: Do you have a rough estimate of when the changes will be implemented? H: Last week of July is when technology will go live. Cameras and readers will be implemented over the summer. A lot of the card readers need to be replaced.
  - H: We're bringing in consultants to get a better understanding of MIT so the transition with their security is smoother.
  - Cosmos: Between Jan and July when you start talking to us. Probably, we'll appreciate a couple of updates like "we're thinking about this and what would you like" H: we can do that
  - Any security updates need to be announced to dorms so residents can move out without any penalty if the changes are not appreciated.
  - Software: The software for security is more behind the scenes. IS&T is putting together the software and implementing it.
- What are the current steps being taken for dorm murals?
  - H: We're looking to have the housemasters to engage the community to hold a discussion about the murals. What are the murals saying? Does it violate title nine? Have a conversation with the title nine investigator. The idea is that the community engaging each other should be talking about the kind of environment that they are setting.
- The handbook is being revised. What are the plans to reach out to the community before the revisions are made? H: Revisions have been *proposed.* The associate dean under Dean Baker is taking efforts to reach out to communities about the revisions. She is going out broader. Before anything is brought to the chancellor or the chair of the faculty for any final changes, she will be going through the chain of approval.
- H: I will make myself available to your communities if you would like to talk.
- Eli: Who here wants to run for secretary. Can you give a brief who you are?
  - Lin: I've been interested in dorm con since last semester. I can type fast and am working on learning latex.

- Eli: we need to vote.
  - Unanimous approval.
- Eli passes out proposal for apple picking event. It was sort of talked about over email about how we'll pick and choose. Tuesday is the date. We'll provide transportation.
- What do we do if more than 200 people want to go? What if we funded 1750. If everyone stays until the end, how will we get everyone back? If we had two trips then people who go on the first trip need to come back with the first bus.
  - If there are more than 250 people who want to go, then we could cap it by cutting down on dorms based on population.
- If there is an overflow then we will work to come up with a reasonable solution?
  - Unanimous "yes" vote
  - Constitution will be at the next meeting.
- MIT giving tree
  - Andrea: In Panhel, we donated 200 gifts. Something dorms can participate with.
- Akhil: Had a meeting with Dean Humphreys and other security personnel. Dean Baker came to talk to us to come up with a concrete way to get past this. Meeting with BC residents with the Title 9 coordinator. This will be a dry run of the program. We'll have a document outlining general guidelines about how to talk to house gov.
- Eli: make sure to talk to your housemaster about any updates. We'll be having a meeting on Tuesday to talk about the mind and hand book about various relevant policies such as alcohol policies. Eli will look through a document about it and get back to the rest of dormcon.