

Student/Community Relations Commission Minutes

Friday, February 28, 2020

1 Call to Order & Location

Keller called the meeting to order at 3:07 PM in the LCNB National Bank Community Room, 30 West Park Place, 2nd Floor, Oxford, OH 45056.

2 Attendance

2.1 Members in attendance

Prue Dana, Glenn Ellerbe, Lt. Lara Fening, Dan Haizman, Claire Keller, Amy Macechko, Jennifer Marston, Sam Perry, Sgt. Andy Rosenberger, Steve Schnabl, Joy Usner, Dr. Scott Walter, Andrew Wilson, Dr. Cheryl Young

2.2 Guests

Sam Perry

2.3 Members not in attendance

Cecilia Comerford, Megan Hess, Megan Schoettler, Jonathan Shirley

3 Approval of Agenda

✓ **Vote:** Motion to approve by Schnabl, seconded by Haizman. Unanimous approval.

4 Approval of January 31, 2020 Minutes

✓ **Vote:** Motion to approve by Dana, seconded by Usner. Unanimous approval.

5 Reports

5.1 OPD

Lt. Fening updated the commission about the recent increase in ambulance runs after sorority recruitment ended and said that detectives are still working on recent burglaries.

5.2 MUPD

Sgt. Rosenberger did not have anything new to report. Schnabl asked about e-scooter impoundment. Rosenberger stated that Miami University Police staff is documenting and photographing incorrect placement and sending to the information Lime. This change has resulted in improved compliance with University policies.

6 Old Business

None

7 New Business

7.1 International student integration

Dr. Young spoke on behalf of International Students and Scholar Services. Dr. Young distributed a report that showed 2,895 international students on all Miami University campus. The Oxford campus has 2,442 international students. Chinese students represent 2,334 of the students and 2,167 of them are undergraduates. Dr. Young talked about Vietnam overtaking India this year, with 108 and 89 students, respectively. Dr. Young mentioned that international students have academic support just like all Miami University students, as well as additional support for dealing with travel and visas and transitioning to American higher education.

Dr. Young talked about three levels of support for international students:

- **Level 1: Basic Needs.** Setting up bank accounts; purchasing cell phones; immigration; compliance with visa rules and Homeland Security. The office has a 24-hour response to changes that affect compliance (grades, registering for more than one online course, etc.).
- **Level 2: Support, Connection, Resources.** This level offers more specific programs including workshops on gun safety, safe driving, crisis management, and how to use the libraries and the OneStop.
- **Level 3: Confidence, Empowerment, Friendship.** Programs for how to meet other students and join student organizations, weekend trips to malls, sporting events.

Dr. Young spoke about international student employment—only allowed to be employed on-campus and how crisis management is coordinated with Student Affairs. One ISSS initiative is working with inclusive classrooms and community. Another is universal learning design and how it assists with accessibility. The office is also working to improve climate on campus. The office also offers on-campus events for people who have travelled abroad to meet international students. These events are open to the public and are happening every day.

Dr. Young talked about the need for an International Student Center, which may be opening soon. She also noted that Miami University has to send programming to the federal government. The commission discussed the International Student Barometer, which was last taken in 2018. Dr. Young explained that Miami University international students are happy at a high rate (98.3%), with academic advising receiving a score of 94%, safety 92%, host friends 89%, student organizations 94%, and campus environment 93%. The satisfaction rate of transportation in and out of Oxford is low, at 72%—third from bottom nationally. Students ranked internet access at 46%—at the very bottom in the United States, and near the bottom worldwide.

Dr. Young noted three recommendations for improving the climate for international students:

1. Open an International Student Center—announcement coming soon.
2. Improve classroom and community inclusivity.
3. Bring back the International Student Support and Working Group. Young suggested appointing someone from the City of Oxford or Student-Community Relations Commission.

The commission discussed the financial impact of international students on Miami University and City of Oxford, declining enrollment, and how Americans and fellow Chinese treat the Chinese students.

Dr. Young talked about the success of the Voices of Discovery Intergroup Dialogue, a facilitated model. Dr. Walter talked about sending staff to Ann Arbor for training. Schnabl talked about having events at the Senior Center and the commission discussed using vacant fraternity houses for events. Ellerbe talked about the impact of budget cuts on international student support. Perry suggested SCRC make an inclusivity statement and Schnabl express interest in writing it.

Young ended her presentation by talking about the #YouAreWelcomeHere Campaign and how SCRC can work together on it.

7.2 Off-campus rental housing inspections

Perry outlined the City of Oxford reevaluation of rental inspections following a recent fire at one house and remodel at a different rental unit. He explained the City split of the Approved Rentals list into two files for exterior-only and full inspections. Perry talked about the City of Oxford seeking full inspection search warrants for property owners that want exterior-only. He noted that the City of Oxford is considering increasing the number rental inspection days and hours for property manager convenience. The commission discussed procedures for demolishing structures.

8 Adjournment

✓ **Vote:** Motion to adjourn by Schnabl, seconded by Young. Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 4:12 PM.