

**Student Life Committee Minutes
October 10, 2001**

Members present: Kris Bartanen, Betsy Gast, Duane Hulbert Diane Kelley, Carrie Washburn, Peter Wimberger

Student member absent (yet to be appointed)

The Committee discussed some reports of neighbor complaints against UPS students that resulted in the police issuing citations. Kelley suggested having off-campus students find ways to get to know their neighbors better. Bartanen suggested that Monica Nixon could help implement some ideas. At President Pierce's request, Nixon had convened a group to find better ways to update the student address system. Washburn thought lease information from landlords would be helpful in compiling an address list. Wimberger was concerned about prescriptive language and the legal implications of acquiring information on off-campus student residences. Bartanen related the history of the legal context for college and university policy regarding off-campus student activities. Generally, "in loco parentis" gave way to a more "hands off" approach, but legal cases more recently have been moving toward a "middle-ground" in order to respond to behavioral problems off-campus. Hulbert asked if the university's policy was an issue in the student's Bill of Rights. Bartanen said it was an issue. Wimberger asked that since the students involved in serious discipline problems were in a small minority, should the sanctions imposed have more "teeth." Bartanen asked if a "hammer" was necessarily, the best approach to instill civil responsibility. In each case that escalates to the point of moving into the university conduct system, the process of the Integrity Code is followed. Bartanen said the current system of neighborhood involvement, worked out by a student-staff task force in Fall 1999, was met with some student complaints that the university was "peeking" into the students' lives unfairly. Wimberger echoed the earlier sentiment of the need to educate the students and the neighbors regarding the system of reporting behavioral problems. Washburn said many neighbors feel the university is responsible for the behavior of its students, especially those that leave the dorms to party off-campus. She also reported that some students invited to small parties found themselves in situations involving a large number of uninvited guests, and the police were called to break up the party.

The meeting was finally called to order at 11:34 AM. (!) The minutes of the October 3 meeting were approved after a couple of minor changes. Kelley asked about whether a student representative had been appointed yet. Bartanen said David Bahar was still trying to find a person for the position. Since Monica Nixon was able to find 2 work-study positions for off-campus issues, Bartanen thought perhaps one of these students could fill the position. The Student Bill of Rights had been discussed in a student meeting on October 8. Washburn asked if the SLC could have a copy of the SBR when a version of it was ready.

Some discussion continued on the need to use the phrase "the university has no further knowledge of this alleged incident" in the letter to the students on neighbor complaints. Bartanen said this language was used because some untrue reports from neighbors were filed against students in the past. Kelley suggested having the section on party behavior from the Logger included in the first complaint letter to the students. Further discussion centered on the difficulty of responding to neighbor complaints about the behavior of students off-campus during the summer session because of uncertain address and enrollment verification. Kelley suggested having Monica Nixon attend the next meeting on October 24 to report on her duties as the off-campus student services coordinator.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Hulbert

