

## **Campus Safety Advisory Committee Annual Report – Academic Year 2022-2023**

**Meeting Dates:** 10/28/2022, 11/14/2022, 12/08/2022, 2/09/2023 and 3/30/2023

### **Committee Members:**

Chief Daniel Daugherty  
Coryn Voels  
Dr. Jill Bandura  
Dr. David Vitt  
Dr. Brian Kelly  
Justina Geremia  
Dr. Deanna Devlin  
Chloe Madlinger - student  
Edward Huang - student  
Brooke Walker – student  
Stephanie Cayo – student  
Alexis Pisano - student

### **Guest Presenters:**

Professor Eileen Kelly and her Law Enforcement and Community Relations Class (11/14/2022 mtg)  
Lt. Joseph Tringali – FSC UPD (12/08/2022 mtg)  
Dr. John Nader, President of Farmingdale State College (2/09/2023 mtg)

### **Introduction**

This year’s Campus Safety Advisory Committee (CSAC) tackled some major issues on campus with relation to traffic safety. While the emphasis of the committee was on the safety of the FSC community crossing over Route 110 and the speed limit on campus, the committee was also updated at each meeting of staffing changes within the Police Department and community interactions and events.

### **Route 110 Crossing**

On September 21, 2022 a resident student was crossing Route 110 from Target, attempting to return to campus. She was struck by a vehicle and was subsequently airlifted to Stony Brook Hospital. Fortunately, she did survive, but sustained serious injuries such as pelvic fractures and multiple broken bones. She underwent extensive rehab.

The intersection of Route 110 and Melville road was reviewed by campus officials, University Police, Town of Babylon officials, the NYS Department of Transportation, and the Suffolk County Department of Public Works. The issues discussed included:

- The right turning lane onto Melville road has a yield to merge sign, not a stop sign or stop light.
- There is no walkway/crosswalk on the north side of the intersection.
- There are a number of trees and bushes blocking the view of any pedestrians and vehicle operators.
- There are no sidewalks on any side of Melville Road, or along Route 110 on the campus side.

A number of ideas were developed in an effort to prevent this from happening again. The Campus Safety Advisory Committee members agreed that the following options should be explored:

- Enhancing social media, campus signs or posters, geared especially toward residence students, to use crosswalks on Route 110.
- Remove bushes and trees on campus property that are blocking the line of sight on the turn onto Melville road.
- Requesting the NYS DOT build out the lane to be a turning lane and remove the yield.
- Obtain quotes for the Installation of a fence that will go around the field adjacent to Orchard Hall.
- The installation of a crosswalk at the Melville Road and Route 110 intersection, crossing over Route 110.
- Possible installation of cameras and increased lighting.

On November 14<sup>th</sup> 2022, members of the Campus Safety Advisory Committee and Criminal Justice professor, Eileen Kelly, along with her Law Enforcement and Community Relations Class met to view the intersection from the Orchard Hall field. The class agreed with all of the previous recommendations and also reiterated the need for sidewalks on the campus side of both Route 110 and Melville road.

As the spring semester wound down, a number of actions were taken to address this issue:

- President Nader requested that a speed study be conducted by the NYS DOT for Route 110.
- All of the trees and shrubbery were scaled back by grounds on the campus' corner of Route 110 and Melville road.
- The NYS DOT began work on reconstructing the intersection and placing new crosswalks to facilitate pedestrian crossings.
- CSAC student member, Chloe Madlinger, volunteered to design a poster that would help to inform campus community members about the importance of using the designated crosswalks on Route 110



### **Traffic Safety and the Campus Speed Limit**

In November, President Nader made a request of the CSAC to discuss the campus' speed limit of 25 mph and overall traffic safety. Multiple ideas were discussed and a survey was distributed to all CSAC members to rank the various mitigation steps. Suggestions included:

- Electronic signs which display a vehicle's approaching speed and flashes red if it is above the posted speed limit.
- Plate reader cameras at the entrances which would also discourage speeding.
- Increased speed patrols by UPD.
- Increase in the number of speed bumps on campus roadways.
- Lowering the speed limit on Cipriani drive to 20 mph.

Lt. Tringali from UPD was also invited to speak with the committee. He informed the committee that he had secured a grant from the Governor's Traffic Safety Council specifically for enhanced traffic enforcement. The grant pays for officer overtime to exclusively conduct traffic stops, summons issuance and enhanced patrols. The goal being a reduction in accidents and an overall safer campus.

After the survey was completed and the CSAC reconvened, recommendations were given to Dr. Nader. Digital radar signs had already been installed at each campus entrance and Cipriani Drive, which were yielding very positive results. The purchase of plate readers was also approved by the college administration and enhanced patrols with the assistance of the Governor's Traffic Safety Council Grant were being initiated. It was determined that these efforts should be given an opportunity to enhance traffic safety on campus before lowering the speed limit. The Campus Safety Advisory Committee will continue to monitor these efforts and the overall safety of campus motorists and pedestrians.

### **Conclusion**

The projects and collaborations that the Campus Safety Advisory Committee have undertaken will go a long way to providing for a safe and secure environment at Farmingdale State College. The committee looks forward to continuing these projects and taking on new ones in the upcoming academic year.