

Police Oversight Committee

April 2017

Submitted by Catherine Warrick

In the past month, the Police Oversight Committee has met twice and has also held one public forum. The forum, on 5 April, was attended by approximately 50 community members, including students, staff, and faculty. The purpose of the forum was to explain the committee's work and to update the community on public safety developments over the past year. Because the oversight committee serves the community, we wanted to solicit input about important priorities that people would like the committee to address in the coming year, as well as concerns and questions that community members might have about public safety issues at Villanova. Attendees raised a number of questions, most of which were answered by David Tedjeske as chief of the public safety department and by Father Rob Hagan as chair of the oversight committee. Several attendees had questions about the difference between police officers and public safety officers on the public safety staff and how this will affect interactions with students. Others pointed to an ongoing need for transparency regarding both public safety policies and campus incidents. The committee took note of both oral and written questions and comments and will discuss these at our next meeting.

Questions about Public Safety or the committee itself can be raised with the committee by email (oversightcommittee@villanova.edu), on the committee's web page (accessible through NovaNet or from the Public Safety website), or in person at the end of each month's meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for 3 May at 9 am in the Davis Center conference room.
