CAMPUS SECURITY & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE
11/19/08 10:30 a.m.
Lowden Hall 304

Present: Courtney Barko, Deb Bryant, Gay Campbell, David Goldblum, John Jones, Joe King, Roger Maas, Scott Mooberry, James Murphy, Jay Stravers, and Phil Young.

Absent: Mary Crocker, Linda Derscheid, Carlos Granados, Carl Leoni, Deb Pender, Cheryl Ross, Stephen Skall, Alan Smith, Sherri Taylor, and Kristin Waddell.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by chair Debra Bryant who welcomed each member present and had each member introduce themselves. The committee’s attention was then directed to sub-committee chairs to give an updated report on their work.

- Exterior Environmental Quality Chair Jim Murphy distributed a map of the dead or drying trees around campus that are to be removed and talked about the landscape plan for re-planting. He will bring information regarding that project to the next committee meeting.
- Interior Environmental Quality Chair Scott Mooberry reported that since the Smoke Free Illinois Act became effective January 1, 2008, he has investigated about six complaints and has been able to resolve all of them but one. Mooberry led a discussion of the sixth complain and took ideas from the committee on possible solutions for resolution. Chair Bryant apprised the committee of the correct protocol for smoking complaints: report to Scott Mooberry or Deb Bryant, then on to Jesse Perez at Human Resource Services, and then to Robert Albanese, Associate Vice President of Finance & Facilities, Operations.
- Safety and Security Sub-Committee – no report.

Led by Phil Young, the committee then discussed concerns over sidewalk holes that get bigger each year. Young is concerned about student tour guides [who walk backward] and the safety of people. He reported two accidents that happened where people were injured; the holes were fixed the next day. These holes are an eye sore for visitors to campus and increase liability issues for NIU. Murphy indicated that individuals should call the Mason shop and inform them of those potential dangerous situations. The committee was encouraged to e-mail locations they know of to Murphy.

Young also led a discussion regarding road crossings. It seems as if students mistake speed tables as crossings. Perhaps signs should be in the middle of the street, or the speed tables could be painted a different color, or signs designated “Yield to Pedestrians” could be put up. Jeff Daurer is doing a traffic count and perhaps a feasibility study. The committee spent some time discussing bikes on campus. Chair Bryant will research with Campus Parking to determine the current campus policy. Discussion followed on how to make this a pedestrian-friendly campus.

Chair Bryant distributed a copy of a 11/06/08 editorial in the Northern Star entitled “Law only useful if everyone obeys.” This article reports that smokers at Grant South were not disposing of their cigarette butts in an ashtray located 15 feet away from the dorm. Discussion followed.

The committee also spent time in discussing some issues surrounding the February 14th tragedy and expressed concern over safety issues on other areas of campus such as the northeast corner of Barsema Hall. There is no light whatsoever there and seems a perfect place of an assault. The committee also thought they would like to invite Chief Donald Grady to a meeting to learn what changes for safety have been implemented since February 14th.
The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. with another meeting to be scheduled in December.