

Campus violence, security impacts college community

By Turki Alturki
Staff reporter

One of the things that people consider when they want to go and live in a new place is how safe and secure that place is. In a college student's case, they often ask questions such as, "Is that campus safe or not?" This is the one question that might change their college decision.

So what is the definition of violence? Dan Falk, vice president of student affairs and dean of

students, said that violence is an intent and a conduct of physical harm to another person.

The United State government mandates through the Clery Act that colleges must make known and post their policies and crime statistics under safety and security online. Falk said that this must be done by October 1 every year.

Last semester the student affairs office reported five different occurrences of student violence.

"Last year on Oct. 1, I had to make sure I posted all the crime

statistics for the campus that had happened in 2015, 2014 and 2013," said Falk.

Dating violence is easily the most prevalent and biggest problem on campus. Violence between couples occurred five times last year and four of them happened in the dorm.

The problem with college students is that they do not want to get in trouble and don't want their friends to get in trouble, too, so some incidents are not reported. If a student got in a fight with

his girlfriend he doesn't want that to be public, Falk said. Falk also thinks that stress and alcohol are the biggest cause of violence.

The solution to reducing violence on campus is to first report it. There have been many episodes of violence that have happened that we didn't know about, said Sarah Hallinan, director of residence life.

It is important to report any violence that has happened to you, to ensure that it doesn't happen again.

Also part of the solution is bystander intervention, "We just think students, for the most part, will listen to their friend more than they will listen to an authority figure," Falk said.

Bystander intervention is a program put together by the student affairs office. Hallinan said, "We try to teach students about taking

care of each other and to be responsible."

Samantha Lang, mathematics senior, thinks that the campus is a safe place. "This my second year here and I didn't experience or hear about a lot of violence on campus so far," Lang said.

In case you are attacked try to stay calm and solve the problem with words instead of violence. If you cannot solve the problem with words, call the police and ask for help.

If you don't know who attacked you, try and get a description of the person and then run away and call the police. Always call 911 first, and then call campus security.

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What to do if you are caught in an act of violence:

- Stay calm!
- Attempt to solve the problem with words, try to avoid violence.
- Call the police if the problem cannot be solved by talking.
- Ask for help.
- Get a description of your attacker.
- Call 911 first if you are threatened, then call campus security.

Pillars from page 2

with the Pillars Scholarship with each competition to take place annually on different weekends in the spring semester in hopes to draw in intellectually-engaged prospective students to campus.

While Andrews said that both scholarship competitions are a concentrated effort to bring in academically focused students that will benefit the intellectual community on campus, the Moundbuilder Spirit award is reaching out to a slightly different base. The school website says that the purpose of the Moundbuilder Spirit Scholarship is to award those who behold the Builder Spirit, "The Moundbuilder Spirit

Scholarship is awarded annually to two student leaders who are well-rounded, considerate, hardworking, and community-minded. This scholarship is awarded to extraordinary people who exhibit great potential."

The college also implemented one full tuition scholarship for transfers last fall, bringing the grand total of full tuition scholarships awarded annually each year to five. These were not the only changes that were implemented in effort to increase student enrollment. It was also announced that activity grants would also be bumped up from \$4,000 per year to \$6,000 for incoming students. Although, current students that were already

enrolled were exempt from this increase and their activity grants were to stay the same the remainder of their time at Southwestern. Not only did the activity grants remain stagnant for students already on campus, they were also not offered a full tuition scholarship when the Pillars competition was first introduced.

Clark explained that both the full tuition scholarships and the increased activity grant served a specific purpose: to bring in prospective students, "Everything that comes out of this office is forward looking, we are always looking at recruiting prospective students," said Clark. "And the contract when students

come into campus, is this is what you are getting, you are getting it for all four years...We never try to take money away from anyone during the four years, so it's always what are we looking at for this new group."

When asked, students reported having mixed feelings about not having their activity grants increased along with the incoming freshman, but most understood the implementation of the full tuition scholarships and how it would benefit the college.

Savannah Caro, biology senior, has one of the highest GPA's of her class and would have most likely been a considered recipient of the Pillars or Moundbuilder Spirit scholarship had it been

offered to her when she was an incoming freshman. Yet, she said that she is glad that the full tuition scholarship has been added to the admissions process.

"Of course I would have applied for the scholarship, I applied for every scholarship I could find to try and finance my education without going into a lot of debt," said Caro. "But I think Southwestern should continue moving forward by offering new and innovative ways to draw prospective students to campus, which is valuable to all students - past, present and future."

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Spotify from page 7

On Spotify, you can search for songs you want to hear, you can browse through the latest charts from all over the world. It even features a new music playlist released each Monday that is personalized based on your music taste.

Spotify also acts as a social medium where subscribers can follow their friends to see what they are listening to in real time, follow their friends' playlists, and even meet new music enthusiasts for more range in the music world. If you have Spotify or are considering opening an

account, I would suggest to go ahead and invest in the premium version. Their ads are a little obnoxious and repetitive if you plan on listening to music for long periods of time. With that being the only major downfall, Spotify is a great app with convenient flexibility that is great for any student whether you need music to study, party music, or even music to relax to! As their website says, "Soundtrack your life with Spotify!"

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