

# Honor Council

H A V E R F O R D C O L L E G E

Public Portion Minutes from February 14, 2010

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**Members Present:** MaeBeth, Sam, Noah, Emily, Anna, A.J., Florencia, Susanna, Dan, Gabe, Inez, Silas, Seth, Emma, Glenn

**Members Absent:** Carolyn, Hope

**Guests:** Stephanie, Misha, Casey, Yost,

1. Moment of Silence
2. Introductions
3. Committee Reports
  - a. Student Outreach
    - i. Shirts are at a standstill
  - b. Faculty Outreach
    - i. Will revise questions for faculty survey
  - c. Abstract Committee
    - i. May or may not have met
  - d. JSAAPP
    - i. Alcohol Awareness week coming up after break
    - ii. Will sell shot glasses and other items
  - e. Safety and Security
    - i. Discussed the destruction of fire alarms in dorms
    - ii. The deans will enforce the rules saying that this cannot be tolerated
  - f. Retreat
    - i. Will take place on Feb 26-27<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. Consensus training will be with Parker Snowe
  - g. Plenary Resolution
    - i. A resolution regarding Dean's Panels is being presented by Anna, Emily, Inez, and Gabe (as individuals independent of Honor Council)
  - h. HCO-Ad Hoc
    - i. The Honor Council Liaison role was discussed and members names were collected
  - i. The BIG Topic: Rape and Sexual Assault
    - i. What is S.O.A.R?
      1. Survivors Of Assault and Rape
      2. They meet for two hours a week
      3. One of the projects is a large mural that will be worked on first as a group, and then other community members will be invited to contribute
      4. The other is a narratives project that will be published in a book for the community
    - ii. The campus resources were discussed

These minutes reflect the opinions of Emily "Be Mine" Dix and Silas "U and Me" Alzheimer, the Council co-secretaries (edix@hc or saltheim@hc) and are neither approved nor reviewed by the rest of Council. Questions/comments? Email [code@hc](mailto:code@hc)!

1. Handout with “the Circle,” people/organizations you can contact if you experience a rape or sexual assault
2. Marilou Allen is the head of the Women’s Center and there is a 24-hour hotline for Rape and Sexual Assault
3. Safety and Security is always on call
- iii. If I get raped, what do I do?
  1. You could call your dean, call safety and security. The choice of notification lies with the victim and what they feel comfortable doing.
- iv. Everyone/each organization is contacted on a need-to-know basis so the organizations are not interconnected
- v. Where, when, and how does Honor Council come into this?
  1. If someone wants it to go through Haverford judicial avenues, a Dean’s Panel would be the likely choice, confidentiality is a priority
- vi. Plenary Resolution
  1. Proposed resolution for this plenary
  2. Not all Dean’s Panels have been approved by Honor Council, so Council would like to have more knowledge about how many Dean’s Panels have happened.
- vii. S.O.A.R. and the Women’s Center
  1. There have been a few meetings with Marilou, but there is no direct affiliation
- viii. Big Topics
  1. Thoughts about the pros and cons of having a joint panel for Rape and Sexual Assault cases
    - a. A joint panel is a jury consisting of students and deans
    - b. Honor Council abandoned the procedure for cases of rape and sexual assault due to issues of legality and confidentiality
  2. An interesting idea would be to have a list of students that would have interest in serving on a joint panel; similar to the old multicultural jurors list
    - a. Something along the lines of “I would be willing to serve on a panel dealing with rape or sexual assault”
  3. How are the students taken from the community and how is the joint panel made up?
    - a. According to Constitution: Two Honor Council members, two deans, two randomly drawn community members, two community members from the multicultural jurors list
      - i. Except that we don’t have that anymore
    - b. Some say that Dean’s Panels are not working, so would it be possible to create a panel that includes students (like Joint Panel) but has fewer students, so it is more similar to

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- a Dean's Panel but where the deans can be held more accountable?
- c. Another idea: There could be an Honor council Rape and Sexual Assault Committee
- d. Hypothetically: One issue with creating Joint Panel option would be how it is decided which avenue a case goes down- Would victims be able to choose what kind of panel?
  - i. What about rights of the accused?
  - ii. One solution would be to have a policy mandating that rape and sexual assault cases will go to a dean's panel by default
    - II) Unless all parties requested Joint Panel
- 4. What is the point of having these cases going to panels and not going to the police? (these don't have to be mutually exclusive)
  - a. There is a community standard that needs to be addressed to ensure awareness
  - b. Consequences in the legal world don't ensure anything in the Haverford community
- 5. Does it change anything about how to handle Sexual Assault cases?
  - a. One guest suggests that Honor Council members are more suited to participate in these cases because they deal with more serious cases
    - i. But it is pointed out that every individual on Honor Council handles situations in a different way too
  - b. Would it be possible to have any training for Council members and deans for rape and sexual assault?
    - i. There could be a sub-group for Honor Council members who go through meetings with the women's center to be more prepared if Council were to get a case of sexual assault or rape
    - ii. The idea might not be feasible since turnover of Council members every semester
  - c. What if it is stated that two members from the women's center are on every "panel," whatever that panel may be?
    - i. It implicitly biases the panel because the idea tailors to the rights of the accuser, the accused may feel threatened or presumed guilty
- ix. What is the difference between punitive and restorative justice?
  - 1. The Dean's Panels are for the assurance that students are safe
  - 2. Is/how is removing someone from the community restorative?
- x. Legal issues of having students on panels dealing with rape and sexual assault

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1. Deans are indemnified by the college on the panels
2. If the deans are sued, the college will cover the deans
3. If the students are sued, they are on their own
- xi. At this point, do these cases automatically go to a Dean's Panel?
  1. The Constitution says so.
- xii. Honor Council RETREAT!!!
  1. Drivers are needed to drive to the Allentown area

## II) Private Portion