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Campus Violence

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Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Workshop Session I

Time of Session: 11:00-12:00pm

Session Title: Campus Violence

Speaker: Pam Jenkins, UNO-CHART

Room: 257

Head Count: 46

Note Takers: K. Brad Ott and Joyce B. Douglas

Notes: What do you worry about in terms of campus violence?

Responses from audience members:

1. Loner who acts out
2. Know student with problems
3. Public perception will change (from a marketing perspective)
4. Outside perpetrator
5. Having a plan in place
6. Intervention
7. Biohazards
8. Day-to-day violence (i.e. rape, stalking, etc.)
9. Active shooter training on campus
10. Exercise in threat assessment team

Pam spoke of the question she asked of her criminology class about the Arizona shooter Jared Loughner. She asked, "Why did he do it?"

The student's response was that Loughner couldn't find his voice. The students understood laughter better than us.

The term "campus violence" didn't exist prior to 1992.

Buzzword of campus, "chilly climate."

Model for Disaster

- Preparedness
- Response
- Recovery
- Mitigation

Mental Health Model of Prevention

- Primary Prevention
- Secondary Prevention
- Tertiary Prevention

Pam spoke of seeking to mitigate a culture of fear with a culture of safety by combining the model for disaster with the mental health model of prevention.

What connects campus violence with disasters? It has a long lasting effect on the community just like a disaster.

A culture of fear has entered the universities.

Violent crimes on campus include:

- Stealing someone's books
- Murder
- Sexual harassment
- Sexual assault
- Stalking
- Cyber-stalking
- Hazing
- Attempted Suicide
- Arson
- Date rape
- Racial, ethnic and gender violence

What happens to students who are victims of these crimes?

- We lose them
- They flunk out of school
- May become re-victimized
- Bad view about the school

Building a culture of safety

Blueprint for living- two things universities do best:

- We educate because we know the dynamics of violence. We can educate from the top/down and down/up.
- Create knowledge

If there is push-back:

- Public perception will be there if there is an incident of violence
- We re-name the topic

Create knowledge:

- Why are so few people doing research on campus violence?
- We don't know what students do to protect themselves
- We need to figure out a way to put campus safety in the curriculum
- Asked about guns on campus? Several hands raised.

Where would it go in the curriculum (as a multidisciplinary approach)?

Orientation

Intro to the University

English

Environmental Science

Psychology

Criminal Justice

Sociology

Health and safety

Business

Geography-spatial mapping of safety

It takes money to get faculty involved in the process

How can we "hook" faculty into this?

Get them to create knowledge around this

Clery Act, Privacy Act (problems)

Commit to knowing what violence is

Violence happens to people on campus who know each other

Engage students by: "flash mob"

What if we had used "flash mob" and gone viral?

Help students to recognize danger

Prevention in a micro and macro way