

Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community

The University of North Carolina
Office of the President

Final Report
December 14, 2004

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Executive Summary

In the spring of 2004, the entire University community was stunned and saddened by the tragic deaths of two students attending the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. In the wake of those events, as well as tragedies involving students at other UNC campuses in recent years, UNC President Molly Corbett Broad and other University leaders expressed a responsibility and a shared resolve to ensure that we are doing everything feasible to provide a safe environment on each and every UNC campus.

In June 2004, President Broad established a University-wide Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community. This 17-member task force, which included students, faculty, and representatives from a number of related campus departments (e.g., campus police, student affairs, admissions, and legal affairs), was asked to look across the entire University to gauge whether or not further steps could be taken to improve or strengthen current policies and regulations impacting campus safety. In laying out the charge to the task force, President Broad acknowledged that it is beyond our power to completely insulate the campus community from the violence that is increasingly prevalent in our society, and that it is crucial that the University not retreat from its historic commitment to access and openness.

The task force found that the crime rate for UNC campuses is only one-sixth of the statewide crime rate and that the data clearly indicated the vast majority of UNC students will not be directly impacted by or become the victim of a violent crime while enrolled as a student on a UNC campus. Over the past three years, more than 250,000 individuals have been enrolled as students on UNC campuses, yet only 21 students who committed a violent crime on campus during that time had a prior criminal history. Only

13 of these 21 students did not disclose their prior criminal background on their application for admission. After considerable research and deliberation, the task force has offered a number of prudent and reasonable recommendations intended to improve both the UNC admissions process and the overall safety of the campus community.

These recommendations include:

- **Standardize those questions on all UNC admissions applications that address student integrity and behavior.**
- **Develop reasonable and cost-effective methods to verify completeness and accuracy of applicant information. Among others, such methods would include verifying previous attendance at other educational institutions, verifying student disciplinary records, and developing a mechanism through which campuses could request, on a case-by case basis, criminal background checks of applicants, admitted students, and/or enrolling students.**
- **Train campus staff in how to identify and respond appropriately to applicants who may pose a threat to the safety of the campus community if admitted.**
- **Every campus should maintain a Campus Safety Committee.**
- **Each campus should conduct the following:**
 - a) **Campus Threat Assessment – to identify sources from which significant threats to campus safety are most likely to occur;**
 - b) **Campus Safety Inventory – to identify current safety practices, procedures, and resources; and**
 - c) **Safety Climate Survey – an annual survey of students, faculty, and staff.**
- **Faculty should receive educational programs to make them aware of indicators in student behavior that can serve to warn us of the potential for danger.**
- **Present students with pending non-academic charges at a campus should be prevented from withdrawing from the University until the judicial process has been completed and recorded.**

Providing a secure and safe university community requires an ongoing commitment and daily attention to the changing environment of our campuses and the communities in which they reside. Working in partnership with members of the campus and surrounding communities, as well as with the public schools, and other institutions of higher education, we can continue to take positive steps to ensure a safer and more secure campus environment.

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Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community

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BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

The 16 constituent campuses of the University of North Carolina collectively enroll nearly 190,000 students and employ more than 37,000 faculty and staff. While the campuses vary widely by geographic location, size, mission, and culture, each offers a relatively safe environment in which to live, work, and learn. On an ongoing basis, all UNC campuses commit significant resources to promoting the safety of students and employees. Every campus, for example, has a standing committee on campus safety, a crisis management team, and/or a working task force on campus safety, sexual assault, or related safety issues. There are numerous ongoing education and awareness programs provided on every campus, as well. Nonetheless, we know that we cannot entirely insulate members of the University community from the realities of modern society.

In the spring of 2004, the entire University community was stunned and saddened by the tragic deaths of two students attending UNC Wilmington. In the wake of those events, as well as tragedies involving students at other UNC campuses in recent years, UNC President Molly Corbett Broad and other University leaders expressed a responsibility and a shared resolve to ensure that we are doing everything possible to provide a safe environment on each and every UNC campus.

UNCW Chancellor Rosemary DePaolo moved quickly in establishing two campus working groups to carefully review UNCW policies and practices and make

recommendations to enhance the safety of the campus community. And in June 2004, President Broad established a University-wide Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community. This 17-member task force, which included students, faculty, and representatives from a number of related campus departments (e.g., campus police, student affairs, admissions, and legal affairs), was asked to look across the entire University to gauge whether or not further steps could be taken to improve or strengthen current policies and regulations impacting campus safety. In laying out the charge to the task force, President Broad acknowledged that it is beyond our power to completely insulate the campus community from the violence that is increasingly prevalent in our society, and that it is crucial that the University not retreat from its historic commitment to access and openness.

In its early meetings, the task force reached consensus on the need to examine safety issues in two distinct areas. One area focused on the pre-enrollment process of identifying students who might pose a potential danger to the campus community. The second area of study focused on the safety of the overall campus environment. As a result, the task force broke into two separate working groups, the Admissions Subcommittee and the Campus Environment Subcommittee. Each subcommittee held numerous meetings and conference calls, while additional meetings of the full task force were held to align and synthesize the work of the two groups. The work and findings of each group and the resulting recommendations of each subcommittee are presented below.

DATA COLLECTION

The task force identified several categories of information that it considered essential to understanding the range and scope of safety issues within the campus community. Comparison data on crime statistics for the state of North Carolina, as well as a survey of practices at other universities across the country, were collected. An initial review of the literature on what is known about college students who commit crimes and the possible impact of instituting additional background checks was conducted. In sum, the task force received the following data for review and study:

- General crime statistics for the State of North Carolina (2003);
- Data on violent crimes reported across the 16 UNC campuses from July 2001 – June 2004;
- Number of undergraduate applications, acceptances, and enrolled students on UNC campuses for fall 2004;
- Admissions applications of students who committed violent crimes during the three-year period noted above after enrolling on a UNC campus;
- Responses to a survey of admissions practices and use of criminal background checks by members of the Association of Chief Admissions Officers of Public Universities (ACAOPU) from across the country (Appendix E);
- Responses to a survey of North Carolina Independent Colleges on their use of criminal background checks (Appendix E); and
- An initial review of literature on college students who commit crimes.

Task force members were also provided a copy of *The Gift of Fear* by Gavin de Becker (1997). This book, which draws on de Becker's decades of studying violence, offers practical lessons for protecting ourselves from the dangerous situations people typically face. It addresses the complexities of violent behavior, validates the importance of personal intuition, and details how to tap into and act on the subtle warning signs that

herald danger. After learning of the task force's interest in his work, Mr. de Becker generously offered to have Robert Martin, vice president of Gavin de Becker and Associates, consult *pro bono* with the task force. Mr. Martin met with the task force in September and provided consultation by telephone as requested.

OVERVIEW OF KEY TASK FORCE FINDINGS:

- The vast majority of UNC students will not be directly impacted by (or become the victim of) a violent crime while enrolled on a campus of the University of North Carolina.
- The crime rate for UNC campuses is only one-sixth of the statewide crime rate.
- The total unduplicated student population for the three-year period July 1, 2001, through June 30, 2004, was approximately 250,000 individuals. During this period, a total of 1,086 campus crimes were reported. A student was identified as the suspect in 532 (49%) of these cases.
- The most prevalent form of crime reported was simple or aggravated assault, with approximately 80% of all assaults being simple assaults.
- Over the three-year period examined, 58% of campus crimes occurred inside residence halls or other campus buildings.
- Excluding simple assaults, approximately 250 serious crimes were committed during this three-year period in which a UNC student was identified as the suspect.
- Among the 250,000 individual students enrolled on a UNC campuses during the three-year time period examined, only 21 who committed a campus crime also had a prior criminal history.
- Only 13 of the 21 students cited above did not disclose their prior criminal history on their application for admission.
- Victims of reported campus crimes were almost evenly divided between men and women.
- In approximately half of all reported incidents, the victim and suspect knew each other.

Taken together, the data and information reviewed confirmed that UNC institutions offer relatively safe environments for members of the campus community to learn, work, and live. In fact, when we compare incidents of violent crime on UNC campuses to the crime rate of North Carolina as a whole, UNC campuses are shown to be substantially safer. For 2003-04, the rate of violent crimes for North Carolina was 450 crimes per 100,000 people. For the three-year period from 2001-2004, we estimate the comparable rate for UNC campuses to be 70 crimes per 100,000 people, or about 15 percent of the statewide rate. Moreover, only 13 of the 250,000 students who attended a UNC campus during this period failed to disclose a prior criminal record at the time of admission and went on to commit a serious crime while enrolled.

ADMISSIONS SUBCOMMITTEE FINDINGS and RECOMMENDATIONS

The Admissions Subcommittee was chaired by Stephen Farmer, Director of Admissions at UNC-Chapel Hill. The subcommittee addressed four specific questions:

- 1) What information is needed to predict or raise appropriate concern about a prospective student's possible threat to a campus community?
- 2) How can we collect and verify this information?
- 3) When should we collect and verify the information?
- 4) How can we use this information systematically, reliably, and fairly?

The committee began with a review of the literature in what is known about college students who commit crimes and a discussion of the DeBecker book, *The Gift of Fear*. Much of the early discussion centered on the role of the admissions office in screening prospective students who might pose a threat to the university community.

To understand the scope of the issue, the committee examined data on the number of applicants for admission to UNC campuses; the questions currently asked on

admissions applications; the use of criminal background checks by colleges and universities across the country; results of the crime surveys of the campuses; and the admissions applications of students who had committed crimes on the campuses between July 1, 2001, and June 30, 2004. It is noteworthy that for the freshman class entering in fall 2004 alone, there were approximately 100,000 applications for undergraduate admissions to UNC submitted, which resulted in 60,000 offers of admission. Prospective transfer and graduate students generated an additional 39,000 applications for admissions. After several months of debate, discussion, and intensive review of the data, the subcommittee made recommendations in three areas.

Recommendation 1:

Standardize on all UNC admissions applications those questions that address student integrity and behavior.

- a) *Ask clear and consistent questions concerning disciplinary, criminal, military, and enrollment history.*
- b) *Emphasize that failing to provide complete and accurate information will constitute grounds for immediate denial of admission, withdrawal of admission, and/or withdrawal of enrollment.*
- c) *Require applicants to report criminal history between the date of application and the date of enrollment.*

Recommendation 2:

Develop reasonable and cost-effective methods to verify completeness and accuracy of applicant information.

- a) *Before a student enrolls, compare applicants against the UNC expulsion/suspension database maintained by the Office of the President.*
- b) *Before a student enrolls, compare applicants against the National Student Clearinghouse and/or a system-wide enrollment-history database to determine if the student has attended other educational institutions that were not listed on the application.*

- c) *Before a student enrolls from a home school or other non-traditional setting, compare the student against the enrollment database in the NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI).*
- d) *Request that DPI report long-term secondary-school suspensions and expulsions on transcripts or on transcript supplements. Make the same request of independent and parochial schools.*
- e) *Request that the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) report campus-based reported crimes and non-academic suspensions and expulsions on transcripts or on transcript supplements.*
- f) *Examine the feasibility of developing a concise, behavior-related checklist that would help screen student applicants for further scrutiny. Work with DPI and NCCCS to determine if such a behavior-related checklist could be attached as a transcript supplement.*
- g) *Develop a mechanism through which campuses could request, on a case-by case basis, criminal background checks of applicants, admitted students, and/or enrolling students. Develop guidelines for the use of such checks that will protect students against profiling and ensure some degree of consistency across the system.*

The Admissions Subcommittee concluded that given the extremely small number of students who failed to provide accurate and truthful information on their applications and went on to commit a campus crime, the widespread and routine use of criminal background checks on all students would be neither cost-effective nor significantly improve safety. However, there are specific “triggers” that can be identified and that do warrant the need for a more thorough background check, e.g., an unexplained gap in time between high school graduation and application for admission. These “triggers” should be included in the guidelines to be developed in *Recommendation 2g*.

Recommendation 3:

Train campus staff in how to identify and respond appropriately to applicants who may pose a threat to the safety of the campus community if admitted.

- a) *Request that the Office of the President, in consultation with campus admissions directors, develop and implement a training program for admissions officers that would help those officers assess each application for potential risk.*
- b) *Require each campus to develop and follow written policies pertaining to the identification and evaluation of applicants with serious criminal or disciplinary records.*

[Note: Details of these recommendations may be found in the Subcommittee’s final report in Appendix C.]

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE FINDINGS and RECOMMENDATIONS

The Campus Environment Subcommittee was chaired by Garrie Moore, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at East Carolina University. The goal of the subcommittee was to identify salient issues related to the safety of students on campus and to consider possible changes to policies, procedures, or educational programs to further enhance the safety of the campus community.

The subcommittee reviewed the campus crime reports in detail with a focus on the type of incident, its location, the relationship of suspect and victim, and the gender of suspect and victim. Robert Martin from Gavin de Becker and Associates consulted extensively with the committee and with the chair on issues related to predicting violent behavior, being attentive to the warning signs of potential danger, essential components of a threat assessment, and elements of educational programs that help prevent violent acts. As a result, the subcommittee formed the following recommendations.

Recommendation 1:

Every campus should maintain a Campus Safety Committee.

- *The committee should identify a senior-level coordinator to manage a campus-wide safety plan. The committee should have direct input into policy change and implementation*

Recommendation 2:

Each campus should conduct the following:

- a) Campus Threat Assessment – to identify sources from which significant threats to campus safety are most likely to occur;**
- b) Campus Safety Inventory – to identify current safety practices, procedures, and resources; and**
- c) Safety Climate Survey – an annual survey of students, faculty, and staff.**

Taken together, this information should be used to formulate the Campus Safety Plan and should identify any changes that are needed in existing policies and procedures, educational programs, and resources to meet any identified threats to safety.

The campus should also consider appropriate vehicles for the delivery of educational programs and whether they should be a required course unit with credit or if these educational programs are integrated into alternative delivery programs, e.g., orientation or first-year seminar programs.

[Note: The Office of the President should provide system-wide guidelines for the assessment, audit, survey, and safety plan.]

Recommendation 3:

Faculty should receive educational programs to make them aware of indicators in student behavior that can serve to warn us of the potential for danger.

Recommendation 4:

Students with pending non-academic charges at a campus should not be allowed to formally withdraw from the University until the judicial process has been completed and recorded.

[Note: Details of these recommendations may be found in the Subcommittee's final report in Appendix D.]

CONCLUSIONS

The safety of students, faculty, and staff is a primary concern on every campus of the University of North Carolina. Each campus is an integral part of the surrounding community and strives to promote an open and welcoming environment. Even though the crime rate on UNC campuses is only a small fraction of the overall statewide crime rate, no university community is immune from violent crime that is increasingly prevalent in our society. However, the data clearly indicate that the vast majority of UNC students will not be directly impacted by or become the victim of a violent crime while enrolled as a student on a UNC campus.

More than 250,000 students have been enrolled at UNC campuses over the past three years, and during that time only 21 students who committed a crime on campus had a prior criminal history. Only 13 of these 21 students did not disclose their prior criminal background on their application for admission.

Even though the number of students who falsify their admission information and commit a crime on campus is extremely low, the University-wide Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community has offered a number of prudent and reasonable recommendations designed to help to screen out applicants who attempt to intentionally mislead the university. These recommendations include:

- **Compare applicants to new and existing databases to ensure complete and accurate information;**
- **Train the admissions staffs on how to identify applicants who may pose a threat to the campus community and require further investigation;**
- **Campuses should perform regular safety audits and threat assessments; and**

- **Review and enhance educational programs on safety for students, faculty, and staff.**

The impact of these recommendations will be assessed periodically by both the campuses and the UNC Office of the President.

Providing a secure and safe university community requires an ongoing commitment and daily attention to the changing environment of our campuses and the communities in which they reside. Working in partnership with members of the campus and surrounding communities, as well as with the public schools and other institutions of higher education, we can continue to take positive steps to ensure a safer and more secure campus environment.

Appendix A

Campus Crime Survey Form

UNC Task Force on Safety of the Campus Community

Campus Crime Survey

Instructions

The UNC Task Force has requested information on violent crimes that have occurred on each campus from **July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2004**. For each incident of a violent crime that occurred during this time period, please complete a survey form for that incident. Please make additional copies of the survey form if needed. Thank you.

UNC Institution: _____

Name of person completing survey: _____

Telephone # () _____

1) Date of reported incident: _____

2) What type of crime was committed? (check all that apply)

- _____ Aggravated/simple assault
- _____ Forcible/non-forcible sexual offense
- _____ Kidnapping
- _____ Manslaughter
- _____ Murder
- _____ Robbery
- _____ Stalking
- _____ Other, please specify: _____

3) Is/was the suspect:

- a) _____ male
- _____ female

- b) _____ student at this institution (go to 3c)
- _____ student at another institution (go to 3e)
- _____ non-student (go to 3d)

- c) If suspect is/was a student at this institution, was he/she?
 - _____ native student (entered as a freshman)
 - _____ transfer student
 - _____ other, please explain: _____

- d) If suspect was not a student, was he/she one of the following? (check all that apply)
 - _____ campus employee
 - _____ guest of student
 - _____ community resident
 - _____ unknown
 - _____ other, please explain: _____

e) Age of suspect: _____

(OVER)

4) Is/was the victim:

a) male
 female

b) student at this institution (go to 4c)
 student at another institution (go to 4e)
 non-student (go to 4d)

c) If victim is/was a student at this institution, was he/she?

native student (entered as a freshman)
 transfer student
 other, please explain: _____

d) If victim was not a student, was he/she one of the following? (check all that apply)

campus employee
 guest of a student
 community resident
 unknown
 other, please explain: _____

e) Age of victim: _____

5) Where did incident occur?

on campus, if on campus, please specify:
 residence hall
 other campus building
 outdoor location: _____
 other: _____
 off campus

6) When did the incident occur?

6:00am – 12:00 noon 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm
 6:00 pm – 12:00 midnight 12:00 midnight – 6:00 am

Please check the appropriate response to each item:

YES NO

* Was there evidence of alcohol or drug use by suspect?
* Was there a firearm involved?
* Was the suspect formally charged?
* Was the suspect convicted of the offense?

What was suspect's relationship to victim?

none
 acquaintance
 friend
 romantic partner: present or past
 other: _____

Other comments:

Appendix B

Campus Crime Survey Data

University of North Carolina Office of the President

Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community

Report on Incidents Occurring on UNC Campuses

To determine the magnitude of crimes against persons at each of the UNC campuses, the Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community requested that campus safety offices provide incident reports covering July 1st through June 30th of 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04. The following table shows the crimes reported.

Table I

Incidents Reported on UNC Campuses During Three Year Period								
Incident	Incident Date						Total	
	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04			
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Simple or Aggravated Assault	271	76%	287	79%	280	77%	838	77%
Sexual Offense	37	10%	22	6%	32	9%	91	8%
Robbery	26	7%	34	9%	29	8%	89	8%
Stalking	6	2%	4	1%	4	1%	14	1%
Assault & Robbery	3	1%	4	1%	4	1%	11	1%
Assault & Other	4	1%	3	1%		0%	7	1%
Assault & Sex Offense	3	1%	2	1%	2	1%	7	1%
Other - Unspecified	3	1%	1	0%	2	1%	6	1%
Kidnapping		0%	2	1%	3	1%	5	0%
Assault & Stalking		0%	1	0%	3	1%	4	0%
Kidnapping & Robbery	1	0%	1	0%	1	0%	3	0%
Assault & Kidnapping	1	0%		0%	1	0%	2	0%
Not Reported	1	0%	1	0%		0%	2	0%
Assault, Sex Off, Kidnapping & Murder		0%		0%	1	0%	1	0%
Assault, Kidnapping & Robbery		0%		0%	1	0%	1	0%
Robbery & Other		0%	1	0%		0%	1	0%
Sex Offense, Kidnapping & Other		0%	1	0%		0%	1	0%
Murder & Other		0%	1	0%		0%	1	0%
Assault, Sex Off & Kidnapping	1	0%		0%		0%	1	0%
Stalking & Other	1	0%		0%		0%	1	0%
Grand Total	358	100%	365	100%	363	100%	1086	100%

This table shows that the most prevalent form of crime was simple or aggravated assault. Note that assault also is found in eight other table lines where it is combined with more serious crimes. As with assault, sexual offenses, the second most prevalent crime, are also found in combination with other crimes against persons. It is estimated that just over 80% of the 838 assaults reported above were classified as simple.

The next table shows that about half of the suspects identified by campus authorities were currently enrolled students. Almost 30% were not identified on the incident reports over the three-year period.

Table II

Suspect(s) Identified in Incident Report								
	Incident Date							
	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Suspect(s):								
Campus Student	186	52%	174	48%	172	47%	532	49%
Unknown	80	22%	108	30%	118	33%	306	28%
Other - Unspecified	21	6%	16	4%	22	6%	59	5%
Guest of Student	20	6%	20	5%	17	5%	57	5%
Community Resident	22	6%	17	5%	10	3%	49	5%
Campus Employee	18	5%	14	4%	11	3%	43	4%
Not Reported	6	2%	10	3%	6	2%	22	2%
Student From Another Campus	5	1%	6	2%	7	2%	18	2%
Grand Total	358	100%	365	100%	363	100%	1086	100%

While the above table shows that just over half of the suspects were campus students or employees, the next table shows that 85% of the victims were in these two groups.

Table III

Victim Identified in Incident Report								
	Incident Date							
	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Victim								
Campus Student	266	74%	273	75%	272	75%	811	75%
Campus Employee	44	12%	30	8%	40	11%	114	10%
Unknown	11	3%	13	4%	14	4%	38	3%
Not Reported	8	2%	11	3%	9	2%	28	3%
Other - Unspecified	9	3%	9	2%	8	2%	26	2%
Community Resident	5	1%	12	3%	3	1%	20	2%
Other Student	3	1%	9	2%	6	2%	18	2%
Guest of Student	7	2%	3	1%	2	1%	12	1%
Contractor	2	1%	5	1%	3	1%	10	1%
Law Enforcement	3	1%		0%	6	2%	9	1%
Grand Total	358	100%	365	100%	363	100%	1086	100%

Table IV shows that 80% of crimes were committed by males while Table V shows that only in 2002-03 did male victims outnumber females.

Table IV

Suspect's Gender								
Suspect's Gender	Incident Date						Total	
	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Male	273	76%	295	81%	302	83%	870	80%
Female	76	21%	61	17%	51	14%	188	17%
Unknown	9	3%	9	2%	10	3%	28	3%
Grand Total	358	100%	365	100%	363	100%	1086	100%

Table V

Victim's Gender								
Victim's Gender	Incident Date						Total	
	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Female	204	57%	169	46%	189	52%	562	52%
Male	152	42%	187	51%	168	46%	507	47%
Unknown	2	1%	9	2%	6	2%	17	2%
Grand Total	358	100%	365	100%	363	100%	1086	100%

Table VI shows that about 40% of the victims had no relationship to the suspect while just over 30% were acquainted in some way. About one in six of the incidents involved past or present romantic partners or friends.

Table VI

Relationship of Victim to Suspect								
Relationship to Victim	Incident Date						Total	
	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
No Relationship to Victim	125	35%	144	39%	146	40%	415	38%
Acquaintances	121	34%	108	30%	113	31%	342	31%
Other - Unspecified	41	11%	42	12%	32	9%	115	11%
Past Romantic Partner	17	5%	26	7%	25	7%	68	6%
Present Romantic Partner	18	5%	15	4%	16	4%	49	5%
Friend	18	5%	17	5%	17	5%	52	5%
Not Reported	18	5%	13	4%	14	4%	45	4%
Grand Total	358	100%	365	100%	363	100%	1086	100%

In 2003-04 resident hall incidents dropped by 7 percent compared to the previous two years. The drop in crime in this location was offset by increases in "Outdoor Locations" and "Other Campus Buildings." It should be noted that this report focuses on crimes

against persons and not against property, so stolen property reports are not included in this analysis.

Table VII

Incident Location								
Location of Incident	Incident Date						Total	
	2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		N	%
	N	%	N	%	N	%		
Residence Hall	148	41%	149	41%	124	34%	421	39%
Outdoor Location	70	20%	77	21%	91	25%	238	22%
Other Campus Building	64	18%	67	18%	76	21%	207	19%
Parking Lot	25	7%	26	7%	30	8%	81	7%
Not Reported	24	7%	16	4%	16	4%	56	5%
Off-Campus	15	4%	19	5%	19	5%	53	5%
Other - Unspecified	12	3%	11	3%	7	2%	30	3%
Grand Total	358	100%	365	100%	363	100%	1086	100%

Of the 1,086 incidents collected by the task force, further analysis was conducted on reports where students were identified as the suspect. Selected were all 2003-04 incidents and those in the previous two years that were more than a simple or aggravated assault. These selection criteria resulted in a total sample of 230 cases. Of this number, 229 individuals were identified and campuses were asked to provide admission applications for each. At this point, information was collected on whether the assault on campus was simple and aggravated. Of the 229 cases in the sample, 147 individuals were found to have participated in aggravated assaults or higher level crimes. Criminal histories were collected and assembled on these individuals. The following table shows the summary results of this additional analysis.

Table VIII

Results of Criminal History Investigations			
	No.	No. of CH* Records Found	CH* Records per Student
Total Number of Students who participated in campus incidents that involved aggravated assaults or other violent crimes in 2001-02 through 2003-04 and for whom the task force requested criminal background checks.	147		
Of the 147, the number of students who had convictions prior to applying for admission to the UNC system.	21	37**	1.8***
Of the 21, the number of students who were asked the question and who did not report the conviction on their admission application to the UNC system.	13	25**	1.9****
* - Criminal History			
** - No. of conviction records found			
*** - No. of convictions per student			

Of the 229 students cited above, 221 were identified as applying to the UNC system as new freshman. A new freshman is defined as a student who is attending college for the first time. This group of 221 was submitted to the National Student Clearinghouse to determine if they had been enrolled at previous institutions before applying to campuses in the UNC system. The final table shows that 13 of the 221 students provided false information about previous college experience on his/her freshman application.

Table IX

Students Involved in Incidents at UNC System Campuses During 2001-2004 Who Entered as Freshman and had Previously Attended Another Campus				
Student Identifier*	Applied as a Freshman to:	Date Applied	Previously Attended	Enrolled During a Term Beginning on:
1	WSSU	1/8/2003	CLEVELAND CC	1/6/2003
2	UNCC	1/14/2002	SUNY ALBANY	1/21/1998
2	UNCC	1/14/2002	ROCHESTER INST OF TECH	3/12/2001
3	UNCG	4/15/2003	RANDOLPH CC	1/6/2003
4	WCU	10/16/1997	GUILFORD TECH CC	8/20/1997
5	WSSU	1/4/2002	GUILFORD TECH CC	8/20/1997
6	NCAT	3/13/2001	WILMINGTON COLLEGE	1/10/2000
7	NCAT	6/13/2003	ASHEVILLE BUNCOMBE TECH CC	8/15/2002
8	WSSU	2/17/2000	EDGECOMBE CC	8/18/1999
9	WCU	10/14/2002	CFCC	8/13/2002
10	WCU	11/7/2002	FORSYTH TECH CC	8/19/2002
11	ECSU	8/11/2000	RICHMOND CC	8/20/1997
11	ECSU	8/11/2000	NCAT	1/7/1999
12	ECU	2/1/2002	SANDHILLS CC	1/7/2002
13	UNCW	4/23/2003	UNCC	8/19/2002
Source: Admission applications supplied by campuses and prior attendance data supplied by National Student Clearinghouse				
* - Identifier Assigned for this report. Records with same number indicate the same student				
Total Number of Admissions Records Processed against Student Clearinghouse Database – 221				

Appendix C

Report of the Admissions Subcommittee

Provisional Admissions Recommendations

Final

UNC Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community

1. Standardize those portions of UNC-system admissions applications that address student integrity and behavior.
 - Ask applicants clear and consistent questions about their disciplinary, criminal, military, and enrollment histories.
 - Emphasize to applicants that failing to provide complete and accurate information will constitute grounds for immediate denial of admission, withdrawal of admission, and/or withdrawal of enrollment.
 - Require applicants to report criminal history between the date of the application and the date of enrollment.

2. Develop reasonable and cost-effective steps to verify the completeness and the accuracy of information provided by applicants.
 - Before a student enrolls, compare the student against the expulsion/suspension database maintained by the Office of the President. Secure 10 years of expulsion and suspension data. Develop uniform procedures for resolving false positives in a timely way. When an enrolled student is charged with a non-academic disciplinary violation, complete suspension or expulsion proceedings even if the student withdraws enrollment.
 - Before a student enrolls, compare the student against the National Student Clearinghouse and/or a system-wide enrollment-history database to determine if the student has attended other educational institutions that were not listed on the application.
 - Before a student enrolls from a home school or other non-traditional setting, compare the student against the enrollment database in the Department of Public Instruction (DPI).
 - Ask DPI to report long-term secondary-school suspensions and expulsions on transcripts or on transcript supplements. Make the same request of independent and parochial schools.
 - Ask the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) to report campus-based reported crimes and non-academic suspensions and expulsions on transcripts or on transcript supplements.
 - Work with secondary-school counselors, community-college personnel, experts on threat assessment and admissions directors to develop a concise, behavior-related checklist that will help screen students for further scrutiny. Work with DPI and NCCCS to include a concise behavior-related checklist on a transcript supplement. Require applicants coming from other schools to submit the checklist before enrolling.
 - Develop a mechanism through which campuses can request, on a case-by case basis, criminal background checks of applicants, admitted students, and/or

enrolling students. Develop guidelines for the use of such checks that will protect students against profiling and ensure some degree of consistency across the system.

3. Train campuses in how to identify, and respond appropriately to, applicants who may pose a threat to the safety of the campus community.
 - Ask the Office of the President, in consultation with campus admissions directors, to develop and disseminate a training program for admissions officers that would help those officers assess each application for risk.
 - Require each campus to develop and follow written policies pertaining to the identification and evaluation of applicants with serious criminal or disciplinary records.

Appendix D

Report of the Campus Environment Subcommittee

UNC Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community

Campus Environment Subcommittee

October 22, 2004

Members: Dr. Garrie W. Moore (Chair), Mr. Skip Capone, Ms. Dara Edelman, Mr. Bob Fry, Dr. Peter Johnstone, Dr. Patricia Leonard, Dr. Melody Pierce, Mr. Tom Younce, Mr. Kemal Atkins.

The primary goal of the Subcommittee on Campus Environment was to identify salient issues related to safety of students and employees on the campuses of all 16 UNC institutions. For the purpose of this report, **“Campus Environment” is defined as the grounds as well as the buildings of a college or university, on which academic, social and cultural forces shape the lives of our students, faculty, and staff.**

System wide Findings

Using data reported from each UNC institution regarding incidents of crime on the campus, the Campus Environment Subcommittee found that:

1. There is a low incidence of reported crime, especially in comparison to society in general (See attached tables).
2. A significant number of crimes that occur on campus occur in residence halls, and many offenses involve an assailant and victim who knew each other (See attached tables).
3. UNC System campus police are typically held accountable to higher standards of crime reporting than other law enforcement agencies. Refer to attached website re: Campus Safety and Security Act, and The Drug Free Schools Act:
<http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/campuscrimestatute.doc>.
Public expectations have a great influence on the reporting of crime by law enforcement agencies, especially campus police departments.
4. Most suspects involved with campus crime are male (see attached tables).
5. Victims of campus crime are equally divided between males and females (see attached tables).
6. More than half of all incidents on UNC Campuses involved people who know each other. This is even more evident in cases of sex offenses where the data shows that almost two thirds (63%) of these cases involved males and females who knew each other (see attached tables).
7. The current ability of students to withdraw while disciplinary charges are pending is a potential problem for allowing transfers of offenders to other campuses without the receiving campus being aware of the pending charges.

The Campus Environment Subcommittee members acknowledge that there are distinct differences among institutions within the UNC System. Consequently **key issues** related

to Campus Environment and Safety were identified and classified into the following categories:

Recommended evaluation, planning, and implementation sequence

1. Maintain a Campus Safety Committee of Stakeholders and Leaders.

A Campus Safety Committee should be maintained at each institution to plan, coordinate and implement campus safety efforts. This committee should identify a senior level coordinator to manage a campus-wide safety response. The committee must have authority to influence policy-change and implementation.

2. Assessment.

Each campus should conduct: (1) a Campus Threat Assessment which will identify sources from which significant threats to campus safety are most likely to occur; (2) a Campus Safety Inventory which will identify current safety practices, procedures and resources; and (3) annual student, faculty, and staff safety climate surveys. Information from these instruments must be effectively and openly communicated to the campus community. Based on the findings of the assessment, audit, and survey, each campus should develop a campus safety plan that will identify any changes that are needed in policies and procedures, educational programs, and resources necessary to meet the identified threats to safety. The campus safety plan should include an implementation schedule with specific action steps to be taken.

The UNC System should provide system-wide guidelines for the assessment, the audit, the survey, and the safety plan.

3. Benchmarking.

Sharing of the findings of campus safety programs/services throughout the UNC system, region and nation must be a common practice. Campuses should aim to maintain the very highest safety standards that can be achieved.

A Campus Safety Plan must be included in each institution's strategic plan.

4. Education

Campuses should establish or further develop educational programs that specifically address measures to prevent or minimize the risk of crime in the campus community.

Safety education and awareness must be a shared goal for the entire campus community.

5. Judicial/Disciplinary

A comprehensive and ongoing evaluation of the relationship between campus and off-campus law enforcement and judicial officials is essential (e.g. police, sheriff, DA). In addition, each campus should establish an effective dispute resolution process. If one currently exists, a thorough review of its effectiveness is essential.

6. Serious consideration must be given, system-wide, to denying the withdrawal of students who have pending charges related to behavior and conduct issues. We must also explore how to include suspended students in a database of information available to all institutions within the system.

The UNC Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community was challenged, by President Molly Broad to read The Gift of Fear by Gavin de Becker. De Becker's business partner, Robert J. Martin, a recognized national expert on crime and violence in American society, discovered the establishment of the Presidents Task force and volunteered to share his experience with its members.

From Robert J. Martin's discussion with the full committee, he concluded that in order to manage fear and improve safety on campus:

1. We must **Communicate** with the campus and keep people informed of issues and solutions.
2. We must have **Confidence** in what we are doing and in ourselves.
3. We must be **Certain** of what we are going to do to address issues of safety.
4. And, we must show that we **Care** about people and the jobs we are doing.

The establishment of the UNC Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community was a timely act of progress. Committee members learned from each other and were able to share experiences specific to their campus. We believe it is important to keep this committee active, meeting once or twice annually, to review progress made, and make further recommendations if necessary.

Appendix E

Survey of Admissions Practices and use of Criminal Background Checks

UNC Task Force on the Safety of the Campus Community

Proposed questions for admissions colleagues:

1. Does your campus currently ask for any criminal background information of applicants in the admissions process? If yes, please give details.
2. Do you currently do formal criminal background checks on any applicants for admission? If yes, please give details **as to when and how those checks are made and under what circumstances.**
3. What steps does your office take when/if information concerning an applicant's criminal background is brought to your attention?

7/13/04

Results

ACAOPU Membership Responding to Campus Safety Survey

- U. of Washington
- Florida State *
- U. of Florida
- Iowa State *
- U. of Georgia
- Georgia Tech
- Georgia State
- NIU
- Colorado State
- George Mason U.
- U of Mississippi
- U of Michigan
- Michigan State
- UCLA
- Miami of Ohio
- Ohio U. *
- SUNY Buffalo
- U. of Pittsburg
- U of Tenn. *
- U of Maryland
- U. of Vermont
- U. Cal. San Diego
- SUNY Binghamton
- North Dakota State U. *
- U of West Florida
- Cal. State Fullerton
- U of Southern Florida *
- U of Houston
- Temple University
- U. of New Hampshire
- U. of Illinois- Urbana Champaign
- U. of Central Florida
- U of Conn.
- U of Illinois
- Ball State University

* Indicated that criminal background checks may be conducted on a case by case basis but rarely done.

NC Independent Colleges Responding to Campus Safety Survey

- Bennett College
- Gardner Webb College * (Nursing Program)
- Queens College
- Pfeiffer College
- Warren Wilson College
- Barton College
- Meredith College
- Cabarrus College of Health Science
- Campbell Univ.
- Salem College
- Louisburg College
- Greensboro College
- Bennett College
- Belmont Abby College
- Mount Olive College
- Elon University

* Indicated that criminal background checks may be conducted on a case by case basis but rarely done.