

Student Voice Association  
Town Hall Meeting  
Fall Semester  
October 28th, 2015 // Leake Lecture 2:30-4 pm



Notes Taken by Jane Yeon  
Moderators: Stella Lee, Karolina Bartosik

I. Welcome & Setting the Stage

- Introduction & thanks by Karolina and Stella. Introduced Mike Patterson (VP of Student Affairs), Sammy Hoi (President), Doug Man (VP of Finance and Operations)
- passed out Question slips, questions should be broad in scope

II. Campus Safety

-Introduction from Marlon Byrd (Director of Campus Safety); Campus Safety is focusing on opportunities for dialogue with all divisions of MICA, [student] concerns being heard and responded to in a timely and respectful manner. Important to be able to agree to disagree in a respectful way

**Campus Safety Question 1: Recently, there has been a lot of discussion surrounding the safety of students getting to more distant locations both on and off campus, like the recently opened Centre Theater on North Avenue or popular off-campus housing spots like St. James Place on Eutaw. How does Campus Safety work with the Bolton Hill community, specifically the Mt. Royal Improvement Association, as well as Baltimore PD to maximize student safety while navigating to these areas further away?**

*Marlon:* Something that Campus Safety does is attend the monthly Bolton Hill community meetings, as students also live in those areas. They address how this community interacts with the city

-Campus Safety is collaborating on the coverage, formulating groups to take a proactive approach to the safety surrounding this community. They are improving that relationship with Bolton Hill

-looking into establishing blue line phones in order to provide method of contact for students, Marlon brings up MICA circulator and training as measures that students should take when going to film center

*Rufus:* The needs of students change constantly, Transportation wants feedback on how to create a better schedule for the circulator, as it is new. Students should be able to utilize it as best as possible. Evening safety shuttle hours were restated. Institutional policies may impede students from taking receiving shuttle services—such as extended shuttle routes, policy on locations.

-Transportation Resource Forum is happening in the Brown Atrium

Q: What are policies on mugging? How can we make resources available to people if a mugging happens on campus?

*Marlon:* Campus Safety is working on making MICA site/information accessible to students. “Situational awareness”, training and awareness as a preventative measure to be able to detect something before it happens

-“Baseline”: ex. Marlon is speaking and we are all focusing on him, something can happen to disturb that awareness (such as hearing shot outside), so our baseline is disturbed, someone walking closer to you, sitting in parked cars, preparing to put on a mask as indicators. Campus Safety can’t be everywhere to prevent every crime, so need students to take ownership and be aware of their surroundings

Q: What about home break-ins? Will Campus Safety be there for the student?

*Marlon:* No matter what, Campus Safety officers will respond. “Get out of there if you can.”

Q: Who can students turn to if that is not the case? If Campus Safety is not responsible for off-campus students.

*Marlon:* Can email him (mbyrd01@mica.edu) or Randy personally. Campus Safety has some restrictions in terms of patrol proximity (Cathedral, Charles, Eutaw), this is extended from the past

*Randy:* St. James place has had several incidents lately, Campus Safety now has a key to access this location, there are prospects of installing cameras for this area

*Marlon:* There is a camera installed at the bridge that is monitored every hour and every day. So even if a patrol officer isn’t there, there are still “eyes out there”

Q: Occasionally, all students get notified when an incident occurs, but sometimes that doesn’t happen. What kind of incident constitutes an email?

*Marlon:* For cases of ongoing issues with the potential for serious injury or death (i.e. active shooter), students will be notified immediately. For incidents that happened 1-2 hours beforehand, it may go out in a bulk email. Also if there are patterns of behavior (i.e. series of assaults), then Campus Safety will send in one email. Want the community to be well-informed

**Campus Safety Question 2: After the break-in at Station, what steps has Campus Safety taken to prevent further break-ins to Station specifically as well as all MICA buildings? How does Campus Safety ensure the safety of MICA students who may be working in the buildings at night and alone?**

*Marlon:* There is a guard at every front entrance in every building, sometimes certain doors are open when they should not be. The guards should be monitoring who goes in and out. Campus Safety is starting a regular patrol, increasing personnel, maintaining the front entrance, looking into alarming several buildings that would notify local authorities

*Randy:* The break-in that happened at Station during Labor Day weekend → sent an email with the picture that was obtained, “there’s going to be an arrest”; they got access through a roof through a window in the back

Q: Why is Campus Safety so relaxed when checking IDs?

*Marlon:* They should be checking everyone that comes through, sometimes they are familiar with students so they don’t check. Training policy could be corrected if issue goes unresolved

Q: State of the IDs, sometimes can’t identify by the picture on the ID by just flashing IDs besides scanning. ID replaced at least once to make them legible?

*Marlon:* Asked if the student is proposing that Campus Safety provide IDs after two years with no cost? → student says no, but some students are not using their ID when they walk through the door, sometimes use credit card, hotel keys, etc. Marlon emphasizes balancing act in regards to checking IDs, “What’s too much? What’s too little?”

Q: Why is the word “guards” being used? Some of them [officers] at the front desk don’t check IDs.

*Marlon:* We recognize that shortcoming. Re-training certain individuals could happen. If you want to file a complaint (or compliment), they are working on adding something like that on the MICA website. Want it to be accessible to the students

Q: Desk assistants always have their name on whiteboard, but officers have tags. DAs having tags might help with students actually showing IDs?

*Marlon:* That’s an easy fix, we can do that.

-student in the audience stated that the Desk Assistant role is separate from Campus Safety in that regard

Q: Specifically in Gateway, DAs don’t check IDs

*Marlon:* Contact him, or Damon Crutchfied, Austin

Q: Why hasn't MICA put better lighting around the area?

*Marlon:* CPTED= crime prevention through environmental design— Campus Safety is talking about this. They don't have accessibility to all locations. Certain areas like the aesthetic of not having those lights. Willing to bring this up in the monthly Bolton Hill meeting

Q: I feel the Bolton Hill community dislikes MICA students because we are not long term (i.e. renters). Is there a way for MICA students to communicate with the Bolton Hill community in addition to Campus Safety officers? This could increase student safety if they live in Bolton Hill, perhaps a mixer?

*Marlon:* A mixer with the Bolton Hill residents is a good idea. They have the monthly meeting that MICA students can attend. We could invite them to MICA forums.

*Sammy:* We know these people really well, they love MICA. Suggest a voice from Student Affairs could represent the concerns and welfare of the students in the monthly meeting

*Mike:* in the past, they have been welcome to students coming— they have had students attend the Bolton Hill association meetings. Since not every student can go, there could be a spot for an SVA rep to regularly attend the MIRA. Mike and Sammy support this and are willing to make it happen.

### III. Sustainability

- Increasing awareness with sustainability initiatives
- Introduced Students of Sustainability and Tim Millner (Associate VP for Facilities Management)

**Sustainability Question 1: Recently, there have been a lot of questions around the topic of sustainability. What are MICA's sustainability efforts/initiatives? Who's leading our sustainability efforts? How can students get involved with these campus sustainability conversations?**

Tim presents these ongoing initiatives:

- chargers for electric cars, installed an energy saving electric panel in Lazarus (reduces energy usage by 10%), possibility that we will get more
- retrocommissioning the h-vacs, upgrading heating and cooling system, system should become more efficient. Installing more efficient equipment, a lot of boilers have been scheduled for replacement

-2.97 tons of waste was able to be composted by Hoff Dining. Reduced food waste by 2/3. Composting started in Baltimore by MICA 5-6 years ago in Lazarus. Composting in Mt. Royal and Glace— this is being looked into

-4' LED tubes (maintenance and energy use is decreased, utility bill also decreased)

-MICA is part of a program where we are paid to re-use energy, reduce a peak load (have been involved for 5 years with this program)

-cost to purchase solar energy panels is being looked into this, but most of the building's roofs are not big enough to install these (not cost-effective), MICA may aim to have 10-20% energy use come from solar energy→ long time commitment

-The first faculty Sustainability meeting is on Friday, November 6th at 12 pm→ suggestions are welcome, implemented a lot of ideas that students have proposed already

-Sarah (President of Students of Sustainability): SOS meets every Tuesday at 10:15 pm in Fox 216; SOS has worked on bike share, started swap shop, started residential composting in the Meyerhoff. If composting is successful→ hoping to expand this to other areas on campus

-interest in reaching out to Parkhurst to work with students who have dietary restrictions

[-sosmica@gmail.com](mailto:sosmica@gmail.com)

Q: Why is it that the AC is left on during the summer in all res halls?

*Tim:* All of our buildings have different types of AC. Some contractors forget to turn these off during the summer. We are trying to get to a point where we have one system to be able to check where AC has to be turned off.

*Scott:* Our Residence Halls have more than just residents. These spaces are used over the summer. Sometimes contractors leave the AC on as well.

Q: Is there any place where students can read about Sustainability initiatives online?

*Tim:* There is a web page online, needs to be updated

Q: Windows in Station building aren't very sustainable in regards to AC, etc. Are you pushing to change some of the facilities in order increase sustainability?

*Tim:* MICA has some old buildings, many have been renovated. Currently have a proposal to change windows at MICA Place. An issue is the environmental concern of changing the

windows. There are other building that need change in windows (i.e. Fox). Working on projects that are looking at changing these

## **OPEN QUESTIONS:**

Q: What can we do with overcrowding classes or students leaving majors?

*Sammy:* All colleges face this depending on student interests and trends, at MICA we are dedicated to providing a range of disciplines. We watch to see where the trends are happening. We are trying to create spaces, but we may not be able to catch up semester by semester. MICA is particularly agile in changing spaces to accommodate these changes. For example, the Illustration department's growth— a new major (Game Design) is being established, we suspect there will be shifts from Illustration to Game Design. When we look at a bulging major, we try to provide even more options. Long term efforts for curricular relief are in process.

Q: Scholarships in regard to this topic? How will MICA adjust to this with scholarship money?

*Sammy:* We have a percentage that is set from the budget for scholarship, so it doesn't really matter if a major is bigger or not. This concern may have come up because of communication (or lack of) with the students. Budget is increasing with the increase of the student population. We are here to provide the resources that students need. We try to maintain a predictable percentage.

*Doug:* It depends on UG and Grad, but we are aware of the increase in need for financial aid, it's an important part of MICA's budget

*Sammy:* The 2008 global meltdown→ afterwards a lot of pressure on families, so MICA has increased its scholarship from the budget

Q: Greywater (recycled sanitary water) vs. Blackwater (waste), does MICA sustainability have an initiative surrounding this?

*Tim:* No

Q: There are many people around campus asking for money, any advice for students who encounter this?

*Marlon:* we all have a sense of who we should avoid, my suggestion is to keep walking. Don't stop to apologize, this way an opportunity to engage does not happen. CS needs to continue to monitor the area that these incidents are occurring in.

*Student:* I have taken self-defense classes. This situation was not preventable. Working with the Bolton Hill community is really important in this aspect. Most MICA students walk places at night.

*Marlon:* Creating a sense of partnership and ownership within MICA students on and off campus is important

*Student:* Perhaps creating something more proactive to avoid these incidents besides just knowing about situational awareness is something to look into

Q: People coming in to Halloween party/haunted house drunk, will CS be involved in this?

*Marlon:* Campus Safety wasn't requested to check with everyone coming into the building, if anyone was intoxicated, CS would remove that person once notified. Detection should take place before the ticket is sold—refusing to sell if intoxicated

1. Closing & Follow-up/Next Steps
  - Join SVA or email, grab flyers