

The Whetstone

The Independent Student Newspaper of Wesley College

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The Whetstone: The Independent Student Newspaper



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Students Demand Change at Town Hall Meeting

By Christian Bailey & Kierra Whitaker
The Whetstone

The atmosphere was tense in Wells Theater as students voiced their concerns to administration at the Wesley Town Hall Meeting Feb. 21.

Most student criticism centered on why many students were unable or not allowed to use many of the College's facilities; how maintenance doesn't inform students when and whether things will be fixed; and overbooked reservations and how they are not allowed to hold events.

"Maintenance never replies to emails, nor leaves any sign that they are working on something," SGA President Betty Lee said. "Maintenance used to leave tags in the rooms to communicate

with students, but they have not been doing that."



Joyrenzia Cheatham
SGA President Betty Lee, one of the student leaders present at the meeting

Head of maintenance, Tom Idnurm said he and his team needed to be better about communication.

"One of our main concerns is the use of facilities," senior Jamal Earls said. "We are not allowed to use them and there should be a committee for these facilities and not just one person making the

decision."

Lee said there are not enough large spaces for students to hold events.

"Specifically, students would like to use the practice field by Wesley West," she said. "However, the decision to use the field is mainly up to one person, the athletic director, who tends to say no."

Other student organization leaders had the same complaint.

Creative Attributions President Corey Johnson said he was told by the basketball and track coaches to rent a room at Dover Downs for his organization's annual fashion show instead of the Wentworth gym.

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Wesley College Budget Shows Mysterious Numbers

By Joyrenzia Cheatham and Zahra Marcus
The Whetstone

Did you know that Wesley College's spends about \$50 million a year to keep itself running, and it takes in just about that same amount? Or that what they pay everyone on campus comes to about a third of all that?

Probably not.

You also probably didn't know that, every year, Aramark Food Services gets nearly \$3 million of the College's money, while maintenance gets \$1.3 million, IT gets \$1.1 million and the Barnes and Noble bookstore that provides our textbooks gets nearly \$400,000.

Whatever you do, don't ask why.

We may never know the reasons why all that money, as reported on the College's 990 form – a form that all non-profit institutions must fill out and send to the federal government – is spent on these things.

"These are not things that we address publicly nor do we share this type of detail,"

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Editorial

You Follow Me?

By Joyrenzia Cheatham
Editor-In-Chief
The Whetstone

I'm sitting in the parking lot in front of Gooding Hall, excited, 18, ready to take on Wesley College as a freshman.

I'm talking to my parents and

they are saying the usual "be safe, have fun" goodbyes.

The last thing my Pops told me before he left is still with me.

"You have to work twice as hard for half of what they have," he said.

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Students Demand Change at Town Hall Meeting

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“We don’t have the budget to rent a room at Dover Downs, so we have to have the show outside,” he said. “If it rains, the show is ruined.”

Some students say that the meeting was beneficial.

“I think the meeting was beneficial because we got to hear the administrations point of view and how they handle things and issues behind the scenes,” sophomore Brielle Braxton-Young said.

Earls agreed.

“I think administration listened to what we had to say and are trying to implement these things, we just haven’t seen them yet,” he said.

Sophomore Cortay Holder disagreed.

“I will determine if the meeting was beneficial when I see change,” she said. “I don’t think the meeting will bring change because administration does not listen.”

Head of Campus Life Mark Berry attended the meeting to speak on behalf of his department.

“The only concern that was raised in respect to Campus Life was hosting programs on the weekends,” he said. “We already currently host programs on weekends, but will be working to better advertise these events.”

Berry said that the students suggestions made at the meeting are attainable and town hall meetings should happen more often.

“I also encourage students to stop by my office and talk to me if they have any event suggestions, need help starting a student orga-

nization, or the like,” he said.

The town hall meeting was arranged by Dean Wanda Anderson and the Office of Student Affairs. The meeting’s purpose was for department heads to answer student’s questions.

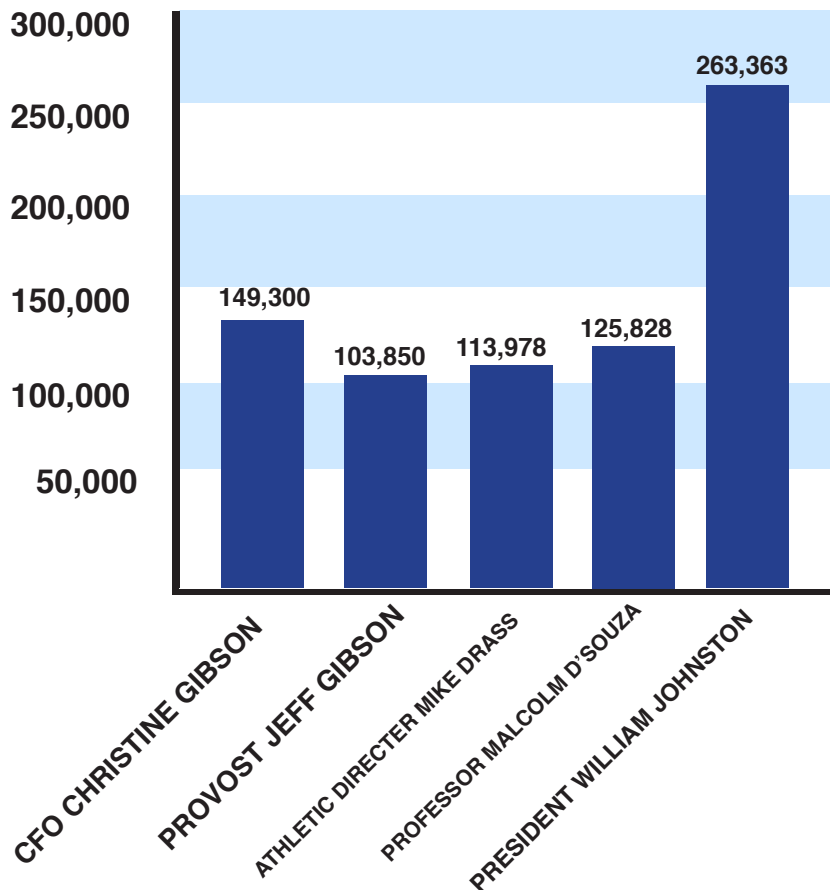
Members from Student Affairs, Aramark, Security, Campus Life, Maintenance and Reservations were present.

Students said they wanted to see change.

“The biggest changes that were promised,” Lee said, “are: better communication between maintenance, and the students and a committee of people should be formed to make decisions about using athletic fields for student events so the decision is not at the discretion of one person.”

Wesley College Budget Shows Mysterious Numbers

Salaries (2015)



Continued From P1

Chief Financial Officer Belinda Burke said about the money reported on the form.

She also said the 990 Tax form may not have a direct correlation to Wesley’s annual budget.

What does that mean?

We have to figure it out for ourselves.

Which is strange, since previous Whetstone stories included other administrators and even former CFOs explaining what things mean.

Not anymore. What the kids don’t know won’t hurt them.

The 990 form is available for the public to view. But the public only gets to view the form years after it was filed. So, the numbers you see above, the latest numbers we can see, are for the calendar year 2015, not the school year of 2015-2016.

Senior Mercedes Myrick does not understand why IT gets so much money.

“The Wi-Fi either never works or it runs slow all time, especially when I am doing homework in the Library,” she said. “Even last week the Wi-Fi went out for hours and I couldn’t even access the Internet for my homework and that was not the first time that happened.”

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Junior Jasmine Evans said Aramark's budget, at least as far as can figure out on our own, does not match the quality of the food.

"With the food options Wesley College of fer to us, I wouldn't have guessed it was worth a \$3 million deal with Aramark," she said. "The food is the same everyday and half the time I'd rather just order out."

Some students said they think the school could spend money better.

"Wesley College needs to start spending their money toward the student," senior Brandon Thomas said. "It would be nice if the campus gave us more options to keep us entertained. I pay Wesley too much money to not be seeing any investment going towards the college but with signed bricks and statues."

"Why can't we focus on touching up some of the things we already have such as the Malm-

berg gym?" senior Luis Artega said. "Once we take care of the things we already have, then we can move forward. Right now, we don't know where money is going."

According to the form, the school also has a low endowment, of about \$4.5 million, which increased only about \$200,000 over the last four years – according to previous 990 forms.

"What does President Clark do, besides show up on campus and walk around," junior Alexis Waugh said. "I'm not saying that's all he does but that is all I have seen him do. I had no clue he was supposed to raising money for school. That (\$4.5 million) isn't a lot compared to DSU."

Delaware State University's endowment is \$28.7 million.

Burke did say that, contrary to rumors, the school is not considering selling Gooding

Hall.

But no one yet knows whether President Clark will rent out a dorm to DSU students.

The 2015 form reflects President William Johnston's last year, and at least the first half-year of President Clark's. According to the form, Johnston made \$263,363, while Clark made \$108,417 in his first half-year at Wesley. Clark's third year is coming to a close.

Athletic Director and football coach Mike Drass is one of Wesley College's highest-paid employees at \$113,978, while Professor Malcolm D'Souza was the highest-paid professor, at \$125,828.

The Chief Financial Officer and vice president of institutional advancement brought in about \$150,000 each.

Why?

Don't ask, Wolverines. Just deal with it.

New Title IX Coordinator Finds Home at Wesley

By Kierra Whitaker
The Whetstone

Passionate. Humble. A feminist.

That is how Dianne Villar, new Title IX Coordinator, 41, describes herself.

Passionate about her work and students. Humbled by her childhood. And a feminist through supporting women.

"I like to think I am Ruth Bader Ginsburg," she said.

Ginsburg is the second woman to be

appointed to the Supreme Court. "She is a strong woman I idolize," she said.

Behind Villar's desk hangs an abstract picture of a woman colored in brown, black and gold.

On the wall to the right, a purple and gold University of Albany poster catches the eye.

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Dianne Villar

Kierra Whitaker

Meet the Staff

Interested in joining The Whetstone's staff? We are always looking for new writers and photographers to help report campus news to the student body.

If you have any questions or comments, email the adviser, Victor Greto.

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Villar is one of seven and the first to attend college. She grew up in Yonkers, N.Y.

“A lot of first generation (college students) came from my area,” she said.

The University at Albany, State University of New York, a predominantly white college, was a culture shock for her.

By her growing up in a minority neighborhood, a predominantly white college was different for her.

“I did not know much about college,” she said, “everything was new to me.”

Money was her biggest obstacle.

“I had a block on my account that I knew about but did not understand, so I could not move in,” she said.

A worker in the business office helped her get everything straight.

“I gave whatever I had,” she said. “She made sure I had money to buy books.”

Freshman year was tough for her but she

told herself one thing that would get her through college.

“If I can make it through freshman year, I am finishing,” she said.

Money remained a problem.

“I had worked three jobs and became a student leader,” she said.

Before her senior year in college, she found a deeper reason to graduate.

Her mother died the summer before she graduated.

“She was my biggest cheerleader,” she said.

She graduated on Mother’s day that following year.

“For you, mom,” was written on her graduation cap.

Villar said she had other dreams when she was young.

She once wanted to be a lawyer, but was drawn to social work and human services in college.

“I am still trying to work with the law in some way,” she said of her job. “Title IX is all

about the law.”

She said her job is to advocate for students.

“It is my job to teach them rules and make sure they have equal rights,” she said.

Chris Willis, director of residence life, said she is a great addition to Student Life.

“Dianne comes to Wesley with a great deal of experience,” he said.

“She is a hard worker with a passion to work with students. I am excited to have her as a colleague.”

Senior Elijah Tinson said Villar gives Wesley a fresh start at Title IX.

“You can go to her for anything,” he said. “She looks very determined.”

Villar said she loves that Wesley is a small institution so she can work with students better.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world,” she said, quoting Margaret Mead.

“Indeed it is the only thing that ever has.”

Dr. Holyfield: A History

By Joyrenzia Cheatham
Editor-In-Chief
The Whetstone

When you look around Dr. Stephanie Holyfield’s office you see a wall of books. And you’ll see a cluttered desk, with scattered papers and egg cartons.

“People bring them to me for our chickens,” she said. “We have 25 laying and we just got 20 chicks. It will be a few months before they start laying.”

Holyfield, 48, who teaches in Wesley’s history department, runs a 4-acre farm with her husband, Jim, a retired landscaper. When she’s not teaching, she not only enjoys her chickens – she also enjoys her cats.

“I like to take pictures and videos of my cat and view other people’s cat videos and

pictures,” she said.

“I listen to an extraordinary number of audio books because I can do that when I have more mundane tasks to do. There isn’t much I do that is not related to my job other than gardening and the occasional Netflix binge.”

Born in Big Stone Gap, Va., she attended high school there.

“There’s a great book by Adriana Trigiani titled Big Stone Gap,” she said. “There’s a movie, too, but I heard the accents were terrible and I can’t bring myself to watch it. Some people love it, others not so much.”

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She attended Milligan College in Tennessee for her Bachelor's degree, James Madison University back in Virginia for her Master's, and the University of Delaware for her PhD.

"The best two years of my life were at JMU," she said. "If I had a time machine...."

She said she got a full scholarship at UD.

"In the world of academia, full funding is like the holy grail," she said.

Holyfield's only child, a daughter, Valarie, who graduated from Wesley in 2016, attends James Madison University.

"She is in a Public History MA program," she said. "It's kind of cool that she has some of the same professors I had."

Holyfield said she is proud of her PhD.

"That was the culmination of many years of hard work, and once I crossed that hurdle it was like being admitted to an inner circle," she said. "The pursuit of a PhD dominates every aspect of life when you are in the middle of it. Getting the monkey (a very large monkey) off your back is gratifying beyond measure."

Holyfield said she also enjoys traveling. Her

favorite places change.

"Before spring break, I would have said Barcelona, but now I may have to say Granada or Seville (Spain)," she said, referring to a class trip to Spain in March.

"I'm also quite fond of Trentino in northern Italy. Since I am from the mountains (of Virginia), other mountain regions resonate."

There are many places she still wants to see.

"I'd hit Germany, Poland, Austria, Turkey, Italy (again), possibly Algeria, the Netherlands (again), Chile, Guatemala, & Argentina," she said. "Somewhere in there I'd stop for a few days in Iceland."

Dr. Ethan Hawkley said she is a great colleague.

"I could not pick a better person to work with," he said. "She loves her students and always helps them. She is very generous and helped me as a new faculty."

Paige Barbour said she is easy to talk to.

"She is the bomb.com," she said. "She is always interested in new experiences. I had two study-abroad trips with her and both trips are full of memories I made with her."

Madison Collins said she cares about her

students.

"She wants everyone to be successful and will help in anyway that she can to make sure that happens," she said. "She can answer any question and solve any issue. I had a few with advising and she helped me fix them so that I could continue to work toward my degree. One time, she stayed with me for an extra hour, until 6:30, to help make a plan so I could graduate in 2019."

There are a few things no one knows about her.

"When I graduated from high school, I won the library award for reading the most books," Holyfield said. "I built sets for three musicals. I'm pretty handy with tools."

She said there is at least one thing that she would change about her life.

"I would have more children," she said.

Holyfield said women have to make harder choices about careers and family.

"I went all the way through my MA, my PhD coursework and exams, and the first part of my dissertation research as a single parent," she said. "It was hard and I still don't know how I did it."

Editorial

Race Extends to Organizations On Campus

By Kierra Whitaker
The Whetstone

There are many student organizations on campus.

But why aren't they diverse?

What can we do to make them more diverse?

As my sophomore year comes to a close, I've noticed that Wesley's student body has a lot of work to do about both race and diversity.

Are at least some organizations not diverse because of their names?

Perhaps.

Some students think that the Black Student Union and the African Student Association are targeted to a specific group.

These organizations repeat that all are welcome.

Just because these organizations have "African" and "Black" in their names, doesn't mean those who aren't African or black are not welcome.

Some or even many white students say they are uncomfortable with those groups because of the names.

BSU's Vice President Laurelyn Richardson, who is white, said she understood what BSU stood for and its mission.

BSU was founded on the principles of empowerment, support, and education, founded by blacks who never felt empowered or supported.



Editorials

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That was nearly four years ago, and I knew what my Pops was talking about: I am a black woman who needs to work twice as hard for half of what white people assume is theirs.

I've discovered even more since.

The truth is, racism is the foundation of our "great" country.

The truth is, racism is the foundation of our "great" country. Not just for African-Americans, but, for a long time, for Italians, Russians and Jews, immigrants who 100 years ago were not considered white.

But it goes much deeper than that for African-Americans.

Racism can be seen at Wesley College, whether you believe it or not.

That is why Christian Bailey, Zahra Marcus, Kierra Whitaker and I decided to write the article, "Divided We Stand?" that ran in the last Whetstone issue

We noticed this problem on campus.

Did we meet resistance in the process? Hell, yeah. Unanswered emails, skipping out on scheduled interviews and even one person who tried to recant what she said just a few hours after we interviewed her.

No one wants to talk about it.

But you can't fix a problem if you don't address it.

When you close your eyes and think of the

average American, what do you see?

I see a straight white man, along with an old Ford F-150, a Confederate flag on the back, and a tiki torch (I live less than an hour from Charlottesville, Va.) with a "make America great again" hat.

I cringe every time I hear that slogan.

When exactly was it great? When your father gave you a small loan of \$1 million?

When George Zimmerman was found not guilty?

When my ancestors were forced against their will to leave everything they ever knew life was?

When we were considered three-fifths of a person?

When blacks and whites were segregated?

When hundreds of African-Americans were lynched every year?

When Native Americans were slaughtered on their own land?

When Mexico pays to build a wall?

Where were all these immigration laws when Christopher Columbus "discovered" America?

Not one of us students, black or white, did this. We were born into it.

Racism is built into the DNA of the United States. It was in the Constitution before the Civil War.

But it's not in our DNA, black or white. For us, it is learned behavior. And it's internalized.

It's in the white community's prejudice and

feelings of privilege.

No other race has to fear for their lives when they are pulled over.

No other race has to worry about being accused of you-name-it because they "fit the description."

Or are assumed to be part of gangs. Or live in poverty. Or take drugs. Or are victims of police brutality.

And it's also internalized in the black community.

No other race openly calls themselves a word that was once used to mark them as property.

Yes, I say it, too, and no, you still can't say it. Even when it's in a song.

No other race has a "team light skin" vs. "team dark skin."

Systematic racism is real.

How can we expect to be treated equal when we were set up for failure in the first place?

How can we succeed in a system that was never designed for us?

I am not asking for a handout or a participation trophy.

I am asking to be treated like a human being. I am asking to have the same opportunities as my white counterparts.

I am asking you to understand where I am coming from.

That is why we wrote the article.

And that is why I'm writing this.

You follow me?

Being Black In America Is More Than Skin Deep

By Christian Bailey
The Whetstone

"The reason why you're black is because your mothers rolled you in dirt when you were babies."

That's what my seventh grade art teacher told me and some other students after our behavior frustrated her.

"How could someone relate my brown skin to dirt?" I thought.

When I went to tell a guidance counselor,

she told me that words shouldn't affect how I feel about myself. She told me there was no reason to confront my teacher.

My mother always told me to love everyone the same way Christ loves us regardless of a person's skin color, circumstance or issue.

I couldn't understand why my teacher couldn't do the same.

I think that's the biggest issue with being black in America

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Race Extends to Organizations On Campus

Continued From P5

I understand the attitude of white students who say they are uncomfortable. If something in the name does not fit or relate to me, I might not attend, either – at least at first.

If there was a White Student Union, would that be fair or equivalent? And would black students not go to its meetings?

Let's face it. There is a historical reason why the Black Student Union was founded.

So that African American students could voice their issues and opinions about oppres-

sion and prejudice. African Americans needed a safe platform from which to speak.

The history behind a White Student Union would not be the same.

Let's look at the truth more closely. Let's not ignore history.

But we also can move on.

In order to promote diversity around campus, starting with organizations, perhaps we need to develop "cultural inclusion" and "diversity" workshops.

These workshops would help, at least, bring awareness to campus. The workshop could

give tips on how to make diversity stronger and noticeable so we could stop awkwardness.

Maybe organizations can co-sponsor events with orgs that are racially different.

Let's try it out.

There are a lot of faculty and staff who would like to help bring diversity to Wesley. I've talked to them.

But students must be willing to act.

As a community and a school we must embrace each other to move forward.

Being Black In America Is More Than Skin Deep

Continued From P6

– getting told to "get over" situations that have to deal with race, bury the history in the past and move forward.

But the issue of race and racism should be confronted and talked about, including how black people have to change the way we portray ourselves.

It is almost mandatory for black parents to have a talk with their children about being black in America.

We are told we have to work twice as hard as our white peers.

We are told we have to be careful when dealing with white police officers.

We are told we must love our skin and hair regardless of what negative things people may say.

These are some of the facts all Americans need to remember: black people have been oppressed for centuries. For at least 244 years – from the time African slaves were taken from their continent in 1619 to work in the part of North America that would become the U.S., until the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation – when they were freed.

But it's even more than 244 years.

After 1863, African Americans were legally segregated and did not have many of the same rights as white Americans for another

100 years.

They were beaten, lynched, thrown in jail, didn't receive the same education as whites, forced into ghettos and slums, and terrorized. Just for being black.

This is the history I am told to forget about.

This is the history I am told to sweep under the rug.

This is the history my grandmother had to teach me because I didn't learn about it in school.

This is my history.

"American society made the negro color a stigma," Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said in an interview with NBC News in 1967.

King told the same reporter after being asked why blacks were different than other non-natives or immigrants, that just about everyone else came to this country willingly.

They did not come here chained on ships and made into slaves.

He explained that even after the slaves were freed, white Americans gave them no land while they gave away to whites millions of acres of land in the Midwest and the West.

Although America has attempted to move past these troubled times with the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education*, which outlawed segregation in schools, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which ended legal segregation, the battle did not end there.

Today racism has become this big black hole scary to look at, think about or talk about –

but it still exists.

I don't think racism is as blatant as in was in the 1960s and the three and a half centuries before, but it is here and it needs to be discussed, not in an argumentative way but in a rational and understanding way so we can move forward as a nation.

But it's not just a one-way street.

I think black people have a big part in changing the way white people see us. It is easier for whites to fear and demonize us because we demonize ourselves.

As a black woman, I think it is necessary for black people to change how we portray ourselves in the media and in our day-to-day lives. Many times we paint ourselves in a way that holds us back instead of pushing us forward.

If a white person never met or got to know a black person, and only based his or her views on what they saw on TV or heard in songs, a white person might only think black men are thugs, drug dealers or rappers, and black women nagging bitches and baby mamas. They might think we all came from the ghetto.

Sometimes being black in America is scary and it seems like a burden.

Regardless of the horrible history, I love being black.

I love being a descendant of people who still managed to thrive in a country that seemed determined to keep them down.

Crime Log

Date Reported	Date Occurred	Nature of Crime/Classification	General Location	Disposition
4/1/18 1720	4/1/18 1720	Suspicious Noise	Off Campus	Closed (DPD Responded / Area Cleared)
4/1/18 2030	4/1/18 2030	Disruptive Behavior	Malmberg Hall	Closed (Referred for Disciplinary)
4/3/18 1136	4/3/18 1136	Disorderly Conduct / Failure to Comply	Longwood Hall	Closed (Referred for Disciplinary)
4/3/18 1210	Unknown	Suspected Forgery	Main Campus	Opened (Investigation On-going)
4/6/18 0900	4/6/18 0900	Trespassing	College Center	Closed (Escorted Off Campus)
4/6/18 1250	4/6/18 1250	Loud Noise	College Center	Closed (Warning Issued)
4/6/18 2211	4/6/18 2211	Fighting / Criminal Property Damage	Gooding Hall	Closed (Referred for Disciplinary)
4/6/18 2324	4/6/18 2324	Suspicious Odor	Zimmerman Hall	Closed (Negative Findings)
4/9/18 1833	4/9/18 1833	Harassment	Through Social Media	Closed (Reported to DPD / Warrants Issued)
4/10/18 0130	4/10/18 0130	Communicating a Threat / Sexual Harassment	Through Social Media	Closed (Reported to DPD / Warrants Issued)
4/10/18 2339	4/10/18 2339	Careless Driving (Vehicle Accident)	Exterior Gooding Hall	Closed (Reported to DPD)
4/12/18 1643	4/12/18 1643	Marijuana Odor	Zimmerman Hall	Closed (Negative Findings)
4/13/18 1646	4/13/18 1646	Alcohol Violation (Underage)	Gooding Hall	Closed (Referred for Disciplinary)
4/14/18 0058	4/14/18 0058	Fire Alarm / Malicious Discharge of Fire Extinguisher	Zimmerman Hall	Opened