Overview

This proposal, supported by Residence Life, the Dean of Students, and UAPD, seeks $25,000 to add two dedicated campus security officers for night duty in and around student housing facilities on campus during the Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights during the academic year. Residence Life would contribute a matching $25,000 to assure the program runs during both the fall and spring semesters.

How This Proposal Supports the Student Affairs Mission:

The heart of the Student Affairs mission continues to be the provision of exemplary programs, services, and facilities for students. All of these things, however, require that campus areas, especially around living areas, and especially during late night hours, be safe. This proposal seeks to maintain the level of security specifically in those parts of campus where the greatest numbers of students are found late at night: areas around residence halls and Greek chapter houses. Additional campus officers have been creating a presence around the residence halls and Greek chapter houses over the past several years, with success.

Reason for this Program:

The need for additional campus security has increased in recent years, as a number of high-profile attacks have occurred on university campuses. One such attack occurred on this campus in 2002, at the College of Nursing, and another attack occurred in Tucson (though not on campus) very recently. While the general levels of civility declined in recent years, the number of suspicious people, cars and activities has declined and remained low since the implementation of the Campus Neighborhood Watch program. The reduction from 35 recorded suspicious activity investigations by the watch program in 2012-2013 and only 2 recorded investigations thus far in 2013-2014 suggests a change in the ecology around campus! This outcome is especially poignant as the population density in and around campus has increased since the program’s inception. Currently, University Housing capacity totals over 7,000. Additionally, several additional large apartment complexes will open within walking distance to the campus. In short, more and more activity is occurring in and around campus housing facilities, and it is anticipated that even more activity will occur as more students find places to “decompress,” and as they walk to and from other campus locations, especially late at night.

This proposal seeks to increase/continue campus safety and security by recognizing the growing need for enhanced security in general, the increasingly density of students out and about, but especially within the various neighborhoods on campus. By providing more security in these locations, students will be safer, whether they are walking from one building to another or are simply hanging out outside. Such a level of security is required if Student Affairs is to provide exemplary programs, services, and facilities.

Number of Students to be Affected:

Of the ~7,000 students are living on campus, over 5,200 are freshman. Many of these students will also have guests present throughout the year, often late at night. Many of which are freshmen who do not live on campus. Additionally, 1,000 more students also live in Greek Chapter Houses.

Assessment Plan:

Assessment will occur by monitoring and reviewing UAPD, Dean of Students, and Residence Life incident and conduct data for the number and type of incidents that occur in these areas each semester.