The SIU Department of Public Safety (DPS) strived towards accreditation to show their dedication to our campus community. Being accredited shows the level of professionalism and determination our employees utilize to provide the best public safety to our community.

**What does accreditation mean?** Accreditation is a significant accomplishment for our department. Being accredited shows that our department is comprehensive and thorough in compliance with law enforcement standards across the state.

**What did the process look like?** In August 2015, the Department of Public Safety began the process of becoming accredited. During the past 2 1/2 years, employees worked to rewrite the policies and procedures and update processes at the department. In November 2017, two assessors from the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ILEAP) visited the SIU Department of Public Safety for an on-site assessment. The assessors spent three days evaluating policies, procedures, reviewing files that were prepared by the Accreditation Manager, conducting interviews with employees and command staff, and examining all aspects of agency operations. On January 22, 2018, we received formal notification that our department had been voted on to receive statewide accreditation. This recognition was the result of an overall department effort. Congratulations to all employees, and we look forward to continuing to provide excellent services to the campus community!
PERSONAL SAFETY

There is no one sure way to prevent violence against a person because every situation is different. However, there are steps you can take to reduce the risk of being targeted. Risk awareness, reduction, recognition, and avoidance strategies can be implemented into your everyday life.

The following strategies are not demands from the police, but they should be thought of as considerations. Evaluate and apply each strategy to your own life and situation with specific circumstances.

Be Aware
Do not ignore the fear or crime, instead, face it with courage. Too many believe crime will not happen to them, causing a person to not be mentally alert to their surroundings and prepared to react. When you go somewhere, have a route planned. Walk with confidence, head up and looking around for suspicious people on your route. Do not wear headphones on/in both ears, as you cannot hear what’s around you. Develop a plan of action if something happens to change your original plans, something happens to you, or you need help.

Reduction Strategies
Keep your room/house doors locked, including bathroom doors in suite style accommodations. Get to know your roommate(s) and any guests in your room. Do not allow anyone into the building you do not know. Do not loan your keys to anyone. If your keys are lost, report the lost keys immediately for replacements.

Try to park in a well-lit area whenever possible. Remember where your car is parked so you can get there without delay. Visually check your vehicle and the area around it before getting in. Once inside the car, lock the doors. Turn your car on and leave. Keep your valuables out of sight.

If you meet someone and would like to see them again, get their phone number – this puts you in control. Always get the name of the person you are dating. Nicknames do not identify a person. Consider meeting at a public location and drive yourself to that location. Make sure a friend knows where you are going and who you are meeting.

Recognition
Using the strategies above, identify areas that you need to improve. Recognizing areas of improvement will make you think about personal safety in all situations. Recognize a problem, find a solution, and learn to avoid possible dangerous situations.

Avoidance
Your overall awareness will increase reaction time; however, placing obstacles between you and a dangerous situation will allow you to plan for alternate routes or call for help. Obstacles can be anything physical in the environment, friends, beliefs, the police, or anything that put something between you and potential harm.

The ONLY confrontation you are GUARANTEED to survive EVERY TIME is the one you are never involved in.

R.A.D Systems of Self-Defense
REQUIRED EMPLOYEE TRAINING

All faculty, staff and student employees should have received an email from Workplace Answers eLearning indicating that they have been registered by the university to complete “Preventing Discrimination and Sexual Violence: Title IX, VAWA, and Clery Act for Illinois Faculty and Staff.”

The online, interactive course is required and should be completed within 60 days from the date of email, which was Friday, January 26, 2018. Additional information and a link to the course are included in the email.

Some may have been enrolled in an additional training concerning the role as a Campus Security Authority.

Contact the Office of Equity and Compliance at odetraining@siu.edu or 453-4807, with questions about the training.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS PRESENTATIONS

DPS offers several educational crime prevention programs and safety services to the campus and surrounding communities. The crime prevention program is comprised of officers who provide public relations programming by request.

Available programs include:
- Alcohol and drug education and awareness
- Basic crime prevention including theft awareness
- Sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking awareness
- Setting boundaries and consent
- Violence Prevention

To schedule an event, contact Officer Kevin Cox at 453-3771 or kevinc@dps.siu.edu
Fundraising with Police Telecommunications

In October 2017, DPS Police Telecommunicators, Police Officers, and the Department of Workforce Education Development raised almost $500 in support of the 2017 “Start Seeing Pink” breast cancer scholarship drive at SIUC. The scholarship was awarded January 2018. Saluki Strength Scholarship Recipient for the 2018-2019 academic year Deborah Emerson is a breast cancer survivor.

The fundraiser continues, as does our support of our campus community affected by cancer. The fundraising committee is determined to annually help students affected by breast cancer. For the 2018 efforts, the committee voted on and approved attempts for an endowment with the foundation. The committee has five years to fully fund the endowment ($25,000), which is enough to give out one $1,000 scholarship each year. The goal is to make the fund larger so there are more scholarships available.

DPS is again joining in the fight; however, this time, we are collaborating with a very determined young man from Williamson County, Johnathan Coates. Johnathan is the son of SIUC student Alicia Coates and a member of Boy Scout Troop 18. Johnathan has valiantly offered to construct Survival Bracelets for the breast cancer fundraising cause. This partnership will provide 500 survival bracelets to DPS. While helping DPS with our determination to fight for survivors, Jonathan will be working toward his Eagle Scout designation. This honorable effort will be a shining example of community service.

DPS will subsequently market these as our fundraising contribution to the 2018 “Start Seeing Pink” drive. Not unlike 2017, our “Pink Princess Pig” will join in as we travel to various locations, team building, and challenging area agencies to join with us helping our campus community. Survival is the mantra against cancer. Survival Bracelets are headed our way with the help of a determined young man. Together we can make a difference!