



THE DISPATCH

The University of Scranton Police Department

Volume 8, Issue 2

Spring 2018



THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON
POLICE

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Editor: Erica Armstrong

Did You Know?

IGGY I has arrived!

The University of Scranton purchased its first shuttle bus in April 2018. It holds 24 passengers, is H/C accessible and capable of accommodating 2 wheelchairs. The graphics were designed in a collaborative effort by our graphics department, various staff members and student representatives. At the start of the 2018-2019 academic year, in addition to taking athletes to the Rev. Kevin P. Quinn, S.J., Athletics Campus the shuttle will be available to transport spectators to athletics fields in order to watch games and cheer on athletes. Additional information about the shuttle schedule, pick-up locations and routes will be available at the start of the 2018/2019 academic year.

UPD hosts 2018 AJCU Conference

Donald Bergmann

This year The University of Scranton hosted the AJCU Facilities, Public Safety and Sustainability Conference, April 16th – 18th on our campus. The AJCU Conference is hosted each year on a different Jesuit College or University campus with the purpose of providing administrators with the opportunity to network and learn from speakers on relevant topics as they relate to best practices, safety, and Jesuit education. This year the University had the honor of hosting, along with our partners in Facilities, 30 Directors including 14 Chiefs of Police/Directors of Public Safety from institutions such as Georgetown, Loyola Maryland University, San Francisco, Fairfield and the University of Chicago. University Police were especially fortunate to acquire many notable speakers, specifically Supervisory Special Agent Ben Stone from the FBI who spoke on Cyber Crime and National Security, PSP Major Chris Paris who detailed his involvement in capturing Eric Frein, the man found guilty of ambushing a State Police barracks, and Ms. Hillary Peck from the National Counterterrorism Center who presented “The Global Terrorist Threat Environment – A Current Governmental Threat Assessment for Public Safety Directors”. Additionally, for the Keynote Speaker we were able to bring in University President Fred Pestello, Ph.D from Saint Louis University who spoke on “Living Jesuit Values in a Moment of Crisis” regarding his experience peacefully resolving conflict after Saint Louis University was besieged with protesters for 3 days following the shooting death of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri.

The conference also served as an opportunity to showcase the City of Scranton, the campus and our department. We are especially grateful to those who assisted in planning the conference, those who provided tours of their respective areas, and those who presented on the different programs that make The University of Scranton

unique. The department and all of our equipment looked great, and many of the Directors/Chiefs commented on how organized and forward thinking UPD is in relation to other institutions. Our counterparts in Facilities were great partners, and through registrations and generous donations by our numerous sponsors such as Cocciardi Associates and Quandel, all expenses for the conference were covered. Hosting a conference turned out to be a big undertaking for both UPD and Facilities, and we are especially grateful for the support we got from the University, Corporate, & Foundation Relations, Conference & Event Services, and the Jesuit Center.



Kipp Adcock: From Sergeant to Magistrate**Erica Armstrong**

Kipp Adcock has always been a man of the community, but this is especially true now that he is serving in his role as North Pocono's magisterial District Judge. Magistrate Adcock was officially sworn in on January 1st of 2018, after virtually assuring his win during the November primaries by winning both the Republican and Democratic party nominations. Prior to Kipp's electoral bid, we were lucky to have him on staff serving as a University Police Sergeant for nearly 6 1/2 years. Although Kipp was posted to third shift (11pm-7am) which is outside of normal business hours, many employees were familiar with him because he often volunteered to be part of committees, working groups and also served as a chaperone for an International Service trip to Belize. As a cum laude graduate of the University of Scranton, Kipp truly embodies the Jesuit mission and vision of The University. It is these ideals, coupled with over 25 years of law enforcement experience, that have helped Kipp get to the prestigious position he is in today. In fact, his tenure with Roaring Brook Township, first as a patrolman and then as Chief, provided Kipp with extensive knowledge of the court system he now presides over.

Now that Kipp is a Magisterial Judge within Lackawanna County he is responsible for hearing summary cases, preliminary arraignments, and hearings for criminal and non-criminal cases. He is also responsible for issuing arrest warrants, search warrants, and temporary Protection From Abuse orders. Kipp will also manage the "Junior Driver" program he introduced to NEPA during his time at Roaring Brook which replaced punishment (fines, costs and points on a junior driver's license) with education in an effort to reduce tragic occurrences for young drivers. Most notably Kipp, in his short five month tenure, has coordinated with the Director of the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC) to upgrade the Lackawanna 911 Training Center so that it could also serve as a Judicial Training Center. This move brings required trainings to Northeastern PA and allows employees of the Unified Judicial System of Pennsylvania to attend training much closer to home, which has also saved the state thousands of dollars in the form of travel costs. It is programs and initiatives such as these that show Kipp's dedication to law enforcement, impartial justice, and most importantly educational development. University Police was lucky to have him on staff, and although we miss his positive attitude and contributions to our program, we wish him all the best in the future!

UPD Introduces Tasers**Patrick Shaffer**

On November 14th a formal presentation was made to the President and the President's Cabinet to propose equipping University Police Officers with Tasers. An unfortunate shooting on the Georgia Tech campus in September 2017 prompted the recommendation. We recognized the incident as an opportunity for The University of Scranton to reevaluate our ability to manage a similar type incident, and how critical it is to have the available tools to deploy a less than lethal option under similar circumstances. Tasers have come a long way since they were first introduced, and have become one of the safest force options for both officers and subjects. Medical evidence concludes that the probability of a Taser directly or indirectly causing a moderate or severe injury is less than 1% and for that reason, Tasers have been broadly adopted by most municipal police agencies. Defensive resistance is typically the most frequent type of resistance encountered by police and there is always the potential for injury during any actual use of force. With the conditional approval of the President's Cabinet that informational Public Forums must first be held, Dave Kostiak began drafting a comprehensive set of standards, guidelines, and procedures regarding the use of force. A full day of training took place and the Tasers were assigned in April. To date there has not been a single deployment. We are comforted in knowing University Police are equipped just as our municipal counterparts, and are in a better position to peacefully resolve a potential conflict or response to resistance situation.



UPD Gears up for Re-Accreditation

Dave Kostiak

In July 2001, the PA Chiefs of Police Association introduced the PA Law Enforcement Accreditation Program to the Commonwealth of PA. To date, 117 agencies have attained accredited status, including The University of Scranton Police Department who is one of only eight Universities/Colleges to have achieved accreditation. The grueling accreditation process for our department started back in 2015; and after nearly 18 months of policy revisions, creations, and edits, the department was evaluated and awarded PACP accreditation in January of 2016.



The specific goals of the PA Chiefs of Police Accreditation are to improve service delivery, strengthen crime prevention and control capabilities, formalize essential management procedures, and establish fair and non-discriminatory personnel practices. Since January 2016, the department has worked tirelessly to maintain this accreditation, and it is something that we are very proud of achieving. UPD is up for reaccreditation in January 2019, but this process has already started.

As for any accreditation, the proving-process occurs daily. Officers must keep in mind accreditation when handling daily calls for service, writing police reports, and attending various training sessions. Many audits and inspections have been conducted over the last two years to ensure the department will be properly prepared for the assessment. By maintaining our accreditation, our department is on the cutting edge of knowledge and equipment to assist you in any of your campus police needs.

Cops in the Community

Erica Armstrong

In the Spring of 2018, University Police introduced a new initiative entitled 'Cops in the Community' for the purpose of highlighting the day-to-day functions and interactions of The University Police Department, while also building upon our community policing efforts. This multidimensional program not only increases awareness of UPD programs through a heightened social media presence, but also has become a way to make meaningful connections with those in our community. It is common for police departments to maintain an online presence in order to build relationships and engage the community, so it made sense for UPD to more intentionally promote the programs and outreach we are already doing.

As part of this program, University Police visits various schools within the local community to provide opportunities for children to meet with police officers in an effort to build trust between youths and law enforcement. University Police Officers volunteer their time to read police-themed books, answer questions related to law enforcement, and allow children to get close to police vehicles and equipment. The positive response from local schools has been remarkable and



children are excited for the opportunity to get close to, and interact with a police officer in a familiar setting.

To see more of what our UPD cops are doing in the community, please follow us on Instagram @upd7777 or like us on Facebook!

Student Officer Program

SO Brittany Colon

My Student Officer career started the spring semester of my sophomore year as I looked for a position that would lead me to live out the mission of our university. I found the idea of a student-run program, mentored by police officers, intriguing and I was motivated by the opportunity to build leadership skills and serve others through this vital campus program. Applying to this program allowed me to unknowingly take my first few steps towards my future career. As a criminal justice major I was immediately drawn to the chance to enhance the safety of the University community. Although I am one of only a few Student Officers who work day shift, I previously worked night shift with my squad. The situations encountered on a University campus of 6000 students on any given night keep us active to say the least, however I have found working the day shift to be



much more rewarding. There is very little that is predictable about the campus Student Officer job, however, on any given shift, I can always count on using communication and conflict management skills. It is essential that Student Officers see ourselves as liaisons between University of Scranton Police officers and the community and act accordingly. I feel as though I am giving back to those that have done so much for me throughout my years as a University of Scranton student. Typically, I let faculty into their offices when they forget their keys as well as letting my peers into their rooms when they get locked out. Gaining the respect of my fellow students is incredibly important to me and therefore I treat everyone I encounter with dignity and respect.

I am pursuing a career in law enforcement because I feel as though it will be the perfect avenue to work in service to and for others. For me, the position will not be about the authority trusted to law enforcement officers, but about the lives I will be able to impact in a positive way. My work as a Student Officer has given me a multitude of life skills. During Academy Week all Student Officers are trained in CPR/ First Aid, and become AED certified. Student Officers take self-defense classes, go through driving training, as well as participate in scenario-based training to prepare us for possible encounters. All of these certifications and trainings are required before a student can begin work as a University of Scranton Student Officer.

The most rewarding part of this position is the critical thinking skills that I have developed. Another major life skill that I have cultivated through my experience as an SO is interviewing others. Because of my successful experience in this capacity, I have been trusted with the responsibility of serving on interview panels. These panels conduct interviews for potential Student Officers, as well as discuss promoting current SOs within the student ranks. I am honored to be able to say that I helped peers advance and learn the same life lessons I have learned. I have applied to the Ocean City Maryland Police Department for a position on their force and was offered a conditional hire. I am in the process of applying to other Federal agencies across the country. I also applied to the PA State Police. After taking the rigorous written exam, PSP informed me that I did well and offered to allow me to do an oral interview and was told I "blew it out of the water". I cannot, however, take complete credit for those accolades. Without the training and experience of serving as a Student Officer and the help of the individuals that mentored me, as well as the support of the entire University Police Department, I wouldn't have been as prepared for the interviews. Watching these professionals daily and having them as mentors unequivocally helped me become prepared for my future as a leader in law enforcement. I credit much of my success in my professional and personal life to the men and women that put the uniform on at The University of Scranton and who make our campus community safe. Whether students or sworn officers, these classmates, men and women, have all made a formative and lasting impact on my life. One day I hope to come back and put a patch on the wall of the agency I work for. I will be able to proudly look back and tell myself that the Student Officer program is where it all started.

Many thanks to Ofc. Todd

SO Lt. Kyle Kolcharno

I speak for the entire cadre of Student Officers when I express my gratitude to Officer Jason Todd for his role in supervising the Student Officer program over the last 3 years. His dedication and continued commitment to our personal and professional development has helped propel many of my fellow Student Officers into full-time careers in law enforcement. I am grateful for the oversight and mentorship he provided to me as a supervisor in the program, and although we are sad to see his term as the SO coordinator end, we know that his impact on the program will be present for years to come. Many thanks to Ofc. Todd!

