A Rising Call to Action

More calls requesting Victim Advocacy services for campus crime victims might seem like a grim sign to most. However, when call volume increased at Security On Campus, Inc. (SOC) this past fall, we saw this as progress. After two decades of experience, this increase in requests demonstrates that more students and families than ever before are informed of their rights on campus, and more aware of the services, linkages, and support SOC provides to campus crime victims. As always, comprehensive efforts are also being made to help reduce crime and increase safety and justice on campus.

The rights afforded to campus sexual assault victims ensure (see box at right) that universities uphold this responsibility and survivors receive the respect and support needed in their quest for justice and healing. This crime is everyone’s issue. Every student, administrator, faculty member, and staff person on a college campus needs to be motivated to make changes in the climate of campus violence and in their university community.

The connections must be made and strengthened to create a genuine campus safety network in each campus community. There must be a collaborative effort to step in as active bystanders, support survivors and assure raised awareness of this crucial campus safety issue impacting students on every campus across our country.

With the 20th anniversary of the Jeanne Clery Act this November, we must reflect upon the progress made -- and the work still yet to be done. Originally known as the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990, this comprehensive federal law is responsible for colleges and universities accurately reporting crime statistics, policies, and practices on campus. Amended in 1992, the law included the Campus Sexual Assault Victims’ Bill of Rights outlining survivors’ basic rights and accommodations on campus. These rights are meant to ensure that universities create a safer, more just and supportive environment in the aftermath of a sexual assault. Some campus communities across the country have begun to lead the way by engaging students, families, faculty, administrators and local support systems. Unfortunately research shows more schools have farther to go until real, measurable progress is made.

Nancy Greenstein of the UCLA Police Dept. Honored with Clery Award

Los Angeles, California – Dr. Nancy Greenstein, Ed.D., has been named by Security On Campus, Inc. (SOC) as the recipient of 2009’s Clery Award. Dr. Greenstein, Director of Police Community Services at the University of California – Los Angeles Police Department, was recognized for her outstanding work in sexual assault awareness and advocacy.

Paul Koretz, Los Angeles City Councilmember (5th District); Dr. Nancy Greenstein, Ed.D., Sam Morabito, UCLA Vice Chancellor; S. Daniel Carter, Security On Campus, Inc.; Eva Feldman, Award Nominator at the February 9, 2010 presentation

Sexual Assault Victims Under the Clery Act and Title IX You Have The Right To...

• Feel safe on campus
• Be informed of reporting options
• Be informed of counseling and supportive services
• Be informed of options for changing academic and living situations
• The same opportunity as the accused to have a support person in any disciplinary proceeding.
• Be informed of the outcome of any disciplinary proceedings

(continued on page 2)
Dear Friends,

This issue of Campus Safety Connection is intended to educate and raise awareness of campus safety concerns for high school students and their families as they prepare to make important decisions about life-changing educational opportunities. Equally important, current students benefit from a renewed focus on safety as they enter a critical time of year during their higher education experience. As part of our mission to educate and raise awareness about crime, justice, and safety in campus communities, we believe these issues should be a top priority in the decision-making process and throughout life on campus.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, with this year’s focus being on college and university campuses.

Thanks to the work of staff, survivors, the media, certain government agencies, and valuable partners across the country, a renewed emphasis on the widespread epidemic of sexual assault on campuses and deficiencies in attaining justice for victims has increased the demand for real change. We have witnessed that this momentum also reflects a broader commitment from society to more openly discuss, understand, provide accountability, and communicate campus crime and safety issues more effectively.

We are pleased with our progress, but our work is nowhere near complete.

SOC is at the forefront of programs and efforts to facilitate safer campus communities across the nation – from the grass roots to transformative policy and legislation. However, as our successes continue to raise awareness and transform America’s expectations and standards for campus safety and justice, there are more calls, more need for services, and significant demand placed on SOC’s resources. We thank you – on behalf of the victims we serve, students, and campus communities nationwide – for supporting SOC and being such an integral part of our mission.

Gratefully,

Connie Clery
Co-Founder

Jonathan Kassa
Executive Director

Nancy Greenstein (continued from page 1)

Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Award. She was presented with the award by S. Daniel Carter, SOC’s Director of Public Policy, at a February 9, 2010 ceremony on the UCLA campus. Greenstein, who has served with the UCLA PD for 13 years, is being honored for her innovative approaches to compliance with the federal Jeanne Clery Act and sexual assault victim assistance.

She authored her doctoral dissertation in 2002 on the Clery Act’s timely warnings, and brought that work to bear on compliance at UCLA. She developed comprehensive sexual assault resource and survivor information packets that help increase reporting and the offering of assistance to victims.

SOC has presented the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Award, in memory of Jeanne Clery, to individuals and institutions that have done extraordinary things to make students and campuses safe since 1994.

Kristen Stewart of “Twilight” Hosts SOC’s “Speak Out and Stand Up: Raising Awareness About Sexual Assault” DVD.

Kristen Stewart generously donated her time to host this informative and engaging docudrama, as well as record a Public Service Announcement for SOC (played nationally and viewed nearly 100,000 times online!). Ms. Stewart was interested in this project after playing a sexual assault survivor in the movie “Speak.”

Inventory is running low for SOC’s most popular DVD! Order for April’s Sexual Assault Awareness Month – available to you for only $65, orders ship the next business day. Bulk rates and special deliveries options available.
Little Acts of Courage

By: Laura Dunn

In April 2004 two male athletes on the University of Wisconsin’s crew team sexually assaulted me. That night I lost my innocence, my virginity and my voice. Almost six years later, my story has been used to highlight the injustices that survivors of campus rape endure when universities fail to hold perpetrators accountable. I have since been overwhelmed with support from friends and strangers alike. Many have commended my bravery for speaking out, but my voice is only possible because of little acts of courage along the way by others.

The first act of courage was a student volunteer for PAVE (Promoting Awareness, Victim Empowerment) who stood in front of a class to discuss rape, helping me identify that night as a crime. The second courageous act came from my philosophy professor who stopped her class to discuss campus rape and informed me of my rights. I came forward because she told me how. Being public about my rape was possible because of my mother’s courage to call the news and my family’s willingness to face the victim blaming with me. And finally the courage of the Clery family, to establish legislation and an organization to hold campuses accountable, gave me the resources to fight for my last chance at justice.

These acts of courage are the reason I continue to speak out nationally as a survivor. I hope everyone realizes that regardless of who you are, you have the ability to end this violence by breaking the silence. Little acts of courage accumulated to a voice thousands heard this month and a story that will demand real change from universities (see page 5, National Public Radio/Center for Public Integrity reports). We all have the power to be courageous on this issue, so speak out with survivors like me to end this violence.

Laura Dunn is an alumna of the University of Wisconsin Madison where she received a B.A. in Legal Studies and Psychology, along with a certificate in Criminal Justice. Upon graduation she was accepted into Teach for America to teach math, first in New Orleans and currently in inner-city Chicago. Along with her work in education, Dunn is a longtime activist for victims’ rights and serves as the Social Justice Campaign Director with PAVE.

Finding My Voice

By: Molly Schenker

After he left, I gave him a hug good-bye and sat on my bed, staring at my dorm walls. I felt overwhelmed and I wasn’t sure why. I called a friend to tell her what had happened. After some research, she found the term “acquaintance rape.” I ignored it. The next morning I was bleeding. You can only pretend so long. The body does not lie.

My advocates from Crime Victims Center held my hand as I underwent the rape kit exam. The nurse pulled out my hair, took pictures, and took my blood and my blanket. By the end of the day I was ready to just forget about everything. But I couldn’t forget. And I won’t.

It took me four months to realize that if I couldn’t forget it, he shouldn’t be allowed to either. I pressed charges through my school’s judicial department. With my advocates, campus police, and family behind me I sat in a room with him and spoke out.

I was questioned. You were sleeping with someone you weren’t dating? You were both sober? You invited him over? They already felt they knew what had happened and there was no explaining myself. He apologized to me at the hearing. I threw up.

He was assigned one semester’s probation. I refused to go back to school because I didn’t feel safe. I wasn’t safe. After rediscovering that he had already been in trouble before, the panel reconvened and suspended him for a semester. I returned this past year but have been haunted. Although tempted to stand my ground, I do not plan on going to school next year. It simply isn’t in my best interest. I am, however, proud to say that I did speak up. Discovering my voice has changed my life and given me a sense of purpose.

Molly Schenker is a sophomore at the West Chester University of Pennsylvania studying Philosophy and Italian. She plans on taking a year off to volunteer in Washington DC with the women’s empowerment movement.

SOC’s Victim Advocacy Program provides resources and information to victims of campus crime, including but not limited to sexual assault, intimate partner violence and hazing. While we do not offer crisis counseling, we do offer technical assistance, linkages, and support. If you, or someone you know has been a victim of campus crime, call our toll-free helpline at 1-888-251-7959.
Safe On Campus Peer Education Program Update

By: Melissa Lucchesi

By the end of the Spring 2010 semester, Safe On Campus Peer Education Program (SOC/PEP) will have reached over 60,000 students, educating them on crucial campus safety issues such as high-risk drinking and sexual assault. With the success of our new sexual assault awareness program, Speak Out and Stand Up, peer education continues to flourish. Working towards increased funding levels, the program is poised to reach every state by the end of the Spring 2011 semester, making it a truly national program.

This year, SOC/PEP implemented a new webinar training program for all coordinators and peer educators. Utilizing webinars creates a more uniform system, and assures everyone is receiving accurate, update information directly from SOC. “Continuing Education” webinars are offered to all involved with SOC/PEP to increase their knowledge base, provide additional support, and to reduce burnout while doing what can sometimes become emotionally-charged work.

As we prepare for the busy spring semester, SOC/PEP looks forward to expanding programs and reaching more students than ever before. It is our vision that every student will be educated on these issues, and their rights, before they graduate high school - and that each will be motivated to make changes in the climate of violence in their schools and communities.

Security On Campus, Inc. Integrates Social Media with Awareness

By: Theresa Rush –Grad student intern

Recently, nonprofit organizations have utilized social media and networking to expand their causes to a wider audience. In a world where technology is so prevalent, social media has become an important tool used to spread the messages of various nonprofit organizations. Social media has recently burst onto the scene as one of the best ways to network and reach people all over the world. As a nonprofit organization we are constantly looking for people to join our team and help promote our mission. With the advent of Facebook and Twitter, SOC can reach even greater numbers of people.

In order to continue to create awareness, Security On Campus, Inc. has integrated itself onto social networking websites like Facebook and Twitter. We have created a Facebook page for our organization’s fans and followers and a page for our PECOCs and Peer Educators to collaborate and share ideas, thoughts, and experiences.

We have also created a Twitter account to provide updates to our followers and locate potential PECOCs. Visit and follow us at www.twitter.com/securityoc to receive updates on our programs and to become a part of our team!

Safe On Campus Peer Education Program Needs You!

Become a PECOC, helping to coordinate programs in your state or a Peer Educator, delivering programs to students in your local high schools and colleges. Make a difference in the lives of students. Help raise awareness about sexual assault, high-risk drinking, and campus safety. Get paid for your work.

Contact Melissa Lucchesi at mlucchesi@securityoncampus.org or Theresa Rush at trush@securityoncampus.org or call us at the central office at 1-888-251-7059.

Security on Campus’ Peer Education program at work in Marple Newtown High School.
A Rising Call to Action (continued from page 1)

Sexual assault is a serious crime affecting between 1-in-4 and 1-in-5 women on a college campus. It is an interpersonal crime that greatly affects the survivor in many layers. She may struggle with the emotional effects of trauma, and may find it difficult to concentrate on her academic pursuits. If the survivor is concerned with coming into contact with the perpetrator still on campus, she may suffer additional stress. A university is responsible for keeping students safe and supported in the aftermath of sexual assault. In the past, asking students what rights they or their friends have as a campus crime victim might have produced blank stares. With the increase in prevention programming through the nationwide Safe On Campus Peer Education Program, high visibility in the media, and word of mouth of others who have been helped by SOC, students are much more aware of their rights on campus. Today, this rising awareness will help to ensure their rights and that the rights of fellow students are fully protected.

A Future Free Of Sexual Assault On Campus

By: S. Daniel Carter, Director of Public Policy

Early in Security On Campus, Inc. (SOC)'s history its co-founders Connie & Howard Clery identified acquaintance sexual assaults as one the most serious threats to student safety in college and university campus communities. In response SOC led the effort to enact the Campus Sexual Assault Victims' Bill of Rights in 1992, as a part of the Jeanne Clery Act.

For the first time, colleges had to enact comprehensive sexual assault education and disciplinary policies that guaranteed basic rights for victims. This, along with the addition of rights under federal Title IX, has helped tremendously. Yet, in our work assisting the victims of these crimes, we continue to witness widespread challenges, as noted recently by the U.S. Department of Justice:

“Intimate partner and sexual violence can be found on college campuses across this nation - regardless of how much ivy is on your walls or how big your endowment... none of us are above the reality of this issue, and it is incumbent upon all of us to stand up and take responsibility.” -- Tom Perrelli, Associate Attorney General of the United States (March 8, 2010 presentation held on the campus of Harvard University).

These comments from the DOJ echo recent findings by a year long Center for Public Integrity investigation (see red sidebar to the right) and strengthen our resolve to fight for better sexual assault awareness and education, to improve rights and accommodations for victims, and for the proper enforcement of federal campus sexual assault guidelines. We stand with Assistant Attorney General Perrelli when he states that “we are working to build toward a future where domestic abuse, sexual assault, stalking and teen dating violence are eradicated.”

SOC is confident that working together - with victims and survivors, their families, advocates, college and university officials, and policy makers - we will be able to make that future a reality.

Stunning Facts Concerning Sexual Assault in Campus Communities

- The scope of sexual assault in campus communities continues to be vastly underreported by both victims and institutions.
- Most assailants are acquaintances.
- Students found “responsible” by campus disciplinary proceedings in these cases rarely face any serious punishment.
- The U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) has failed to strongly enforce Title IX guidelines meant to protect the victims of sexual assault and eliminate hostile environments on campus.

The complete series of 7 CPI articles, published between December 2009 and February 2010 along with supplementary materials can be accessed online at http://www.publicintegrity.org/investigations/campus

2010 Clery Act Training Sessions

Since 2007, more than 2,000 college and university personnel have attended Security On Campus, Inc.’s (SOC) Clery Act Training program. The Clery Act programs were developed in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime.

SOC’s 2010 Clery Act Training sessions will include the latest information from final federal rules on emergency response & immediate notification, expanded hate crime reporting requirements, partnering with local police, and missing student procedures. A special session on new campus fire safety reporting for campuses with student housing will also be presented.

- June 3-4, Amerherst, MA with the UMASS Police Dept.
- July 7-8, Philadelphia, PA with UPENN’s Division of Public Safety
- July 19-20, Chicago, IL with Northwestern University Police Department

Additional sessions in Texas and California will be scheduled soon. To register or for more information visit http://www.securityoncampus.org/ or call 1-888-251-7959.
April 5, 2010 marks 24 years since our beloved Jeanne was so brutally raped and strangled to death by a fellow Lehigh University student, who initially intended to rob her dormitory room as she slept. The criminal trial determined her assailant to be an alcohol and drug addict with a history of sexual deviance. Our hearts still scream in pain; she was the joy of our lives...our gift from God. We never would have survived this eternal nightmare without the love and support of our family and friends, and our faith in God. You all have helped us in making our nation’s campuses safer. Only if students are aware of the campus crimes will they take appropriate precautions to protect themselves. Give them timely crime information that they need. Thousands of lives will be saved over the years...maybe someone you know or love. Thank you for caring and helping to save lives on our college campuses.

— Connie Clery

PECOC Spotlight: Stephen Thiele

I first intended on joining the Safe On Campus Peer Education Program as a Peer Educator, after doing some research on Security On Campus, Inc. (SOC), I became very interested in the programs being offered and became a Peer Education Campus Outreach Coordinator (PECOC). Six months later, I now coordinate programs in 9 different counties throughout Pennsylvania and love every minute of it! I have been lucky enough to meet and place some great college students as peer educators. I enjoy traveling to schools to speak to teachers and students, and have even taught teachers some new facts. As of March 2010, I have educated more than 1,000 high school students between grades 9 through 12 about the risks of alcohol, sexual assault and rape on college campuses.

Watching the nightly news, you will see stories about students being arrested for being drunk on campuses and students being victimized by sexual assault in their dorm rooms. I feel my job is successful if I can stop one sexual assault or rape from happening, through education and awareness. My ultimate goal is to reach as many high school students as I can in order to prevent any and all sexual assaults or rapes from occurring in the future.

I never thought that I would enjoy public speaking. However, I gave my first presentation in November 2009, and I have not looked back since. Unfortunately, the subjects that we are talking about do not get enough national press, requiring college students and their peers to get the word out. SOC needs college students from throughout the country to step up to the plate and become Peer Education Campus Outreach Coordinators and Peer Educators. The experiences that you gain from belonging to such a great organization will stick with you for the rest of your life, and you will know that you are doing your part to make college campuses safe for all.

Stephen Thiele graduated from Jim Thorpe High School in 2007. He is currently enrolled in California University’s Bachelor’s of Sports Management program. He has been a PECOC since Fall 2009. In addition, Stephen volunteers to help expand SOC and the Safe On Campus Peer Education Program.

In Memory of Jeanne Clery (1966-1986)

April 5, 2010 marks 24 years since our beloved Jeanne was so brutally raped and strangled to death by a fellow Lehigh University student, who initially intended to rob her dormitory room as she slept. The criminal trial determined her assailant to be an alcohol and drug addict with a history of sexual deviance. Our hearts still scream in pain; she was the joy of our lives...our gift from God.

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— Connie Clery