

**UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA
ANNUAL REPORT
Fiscal Year 2009 (July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009)**

DEPARTMENT OF University Police
Name of Department Head Thomas J. Mackel
Name of Person Completing Report Thomas J. Mackel

1*	Departmental Mission/Vision Statement <i>(url only, required)</i>	http:// www.westga.edu/police/index.php
2*	Departmental Statement of Goals, Process to Assess These Goals, and Assessment Results <i>(url only, required)</i>	http:// www.westga.edu/police/index.php
3*	Give an Example of How your Department Used the Assessment of Goals and Outcomes to Change/Improve a Process <i>(required)</i>	
	Last year we worked with the Warehouse supervisor to obtain data concerning fuel consumption by the police department. We used that data to develop strategies to reduce gas consumption. We are still receiving that data to ensure that we maintain our reductions. As of the last report we have further reduced our consumption, even below last year's reductions.	
4*	General Statement of Department Condition <i>(required)</i>	
	<p>The overall condition of the department is very good. The past year has seen little turnover among staff and many of our younger officers have gained valuable experience. Our criminal investigation unit successfully prosecuted two major cases. Both cases exhibited the training, skill and flexibility of our three investigators. One case required a great deal of computer work of which they had little experience. In spite of this they created a case that left the defendant little choice but to plead guilty. The other case was even more difficult but their interview skills and follow up prevented the defendant from providing a plausible defense. He too entered a plea.</p> <p>The investigators noted the lack of training and equipment hampered the investigation into the computer related case. It is their intent to obtain the instruction and systems needed to not only properly investigate crimes that occur on campus but be able to assist other agencies who need similar assistance. We have now purchased the computer and software needed and are working with Continuing Education to bring the vendor to campus to train our personnel. This class will be made available to other police agencies that may wish to attend.</p> <p>Our uniform division officers continue to effectively patrol the campus, utilizing a combination of car, ATV and foot patrol. One incident that demonstrates their effectiveness involves the armed robbery of a female student in late April. At approximately 1:30 am she was walking back to her residence hall when she was approached by two males who robbed her at gun point. Two nights later, working on information provided by a citizen, they went to an apartment at Tyus Hall and interviewed a student and his two associates. After receiving consent to search the room, evidence was obtained that lead to the arrest of the suspects. The training and experience of these officers worked to make the campus a safer place.</p> <p>Our professional standards division continues to work for state and national accreditation of the Department. This is a great undertaking but substantial progress has been made in this year. It is anticipated that a mock assessment will be conducted in Fall 2009 with full accreditation in spring of 2010.</p> <p>The demands on the Communications and Technology Division continue to grow. As the complexity of the communications officer position increases, it is vital that we insure that we are obtaining the best qualified individual that we can. In order to do so, we have increased the testing of all candidates to include typing, spelling, and a listing test. We have also begun requiring a psychological test to measure if they are suited to this stressful work.</p>	

The Department now requires all communication officers be certified by GA POST. The paperwork which must be completed before an applicant can attend the class is extensive. Lt. Watson worked with Supervisor Alexander and all current Communications Officers have been cleared to attend the academy as slots become available.

The challenges the police department are facing are numerous. Our student population is growing while our resources are shrinking. This year we will open both the Greek Village and stadium. Both will require additional police personnel as well as an increase in the number of dispatchers. In the next 5 years there will be a projected need to increase the number of police officers by 8 (total of 30) and dispatchers by 5 to a total of 11. This will allow for us to have two dispatchers on at all times. The lock shop needs an additional locksmith to cover all of the additional locks that have been placed on campus. There is also a need for a fourth investigator due to the number of cases they are now working plus the additional duties which have been assigned to them. Finally we need an additional security officer to ensure that all of the buildings are properly secured at night. At this point, two nights a week the police officers must secure the buildings which takes them away from their assigned duties.

To limit the number of new personnel hired, the University needs invest in closed circuit television and additional electronic locks. A well designed camera network will allow the dispatchers to "patrol" the campus and direct officers to problem areas. This will improve the overall efficiency the Department. The use of electronic locks lessens the needs for not only additional locksmiths but also security personnel to secure the buildings at night. The use of electronic locks for office and residence hall rooms also limits the danger caused when a master key is lost. Though the installation of this technology will be expensive, the cost will be at least partially offset by lessening the need for more police officers.

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Departmental Achievements

- 1) All police officers and dispatchers were trained in the Incident Command System as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- 2) The Department provided its staff with 4,491 hours of basic and advance law enforcement training. This is a 33% increase over 2008.
- 3) Sgt. Branden Smith and Cpl. Michael Keener received their instructor certification from the Georgia Peace Officers Standards and Training Council (GA POST). This provides the Department with 8 certified instructors. We are able to provide much of our own GA POST approved training without sending officers to the training Center in Forsyth. This saves training dollars which can be used for truly specialized instruction.
- 4) Sgt. Chad Miller and Sgt. Branden Smith were certified as shotgun instructors. With this certification we are now able to provide this training without leaving Carroll County. This saves us travel dollars and allows us to get our personnel trained without being put on a waiting list at the training center in Forsyth.
- 5) Sgt. Smith was also certified as a Glock Firearms armorer. This allows him to conduct preventative maintenance checks and repairs on our pistols without sending them to an off-campus gunsmith. This will save us money by allowing us to make in-house repairs and extending the life of the weapon.
- 6) Lt. Ned Watson, Professional Standards officer, was certified as a GA POST proctor. This allows us to teach advanced classes and provide the final exam without having a proctor from a regional academy present. There are a limited number of certified proctors which restricts the number of classes we have been able to hold. This will reduce the number of times we have to send officers off campus for advanced training.
- 7) The policy manual was updated to 2009 standards.
- 8) Department files were reorganized according to the standards required to receive state accreditation which is a Departmental goal.

- 9) The Department web site was updated to make it more user friendly and provide greater information.
- 10) The Department worked with the Homeland Security Committee to conduct a campus wide disaster drill. Approximately 100 staff and faculty participated.
- 11) From the information learned during the disaster drill, the Department purchased two trailers which are being converted into emergency response vehicles. One will contain the materials needed to set up a 50 bed shelter and the other will contains cones and barricades for blocking roads or impacted areas.
- 12) From the information learned during the disaster drill, the Department has purchased two trailers and placed generators on them. The generators were already in the Department's inventory. This allows us to move the units around campus as needed in an emergency. We will purchase additional units as funding permits.

6 Staff Productivity

- 1) The Department conducted 120 hour GA POST certified supervision courses for recently promoted sergeants from Armstrong Atlantic University. Also attending were officers from UWG, Carroll County Sheriff, and Franklin PD.
- 2) The rank of corporal was reinstated in the department. The new corporals were immediately sent to the 120 certification course. Also receiving their supervision certificates were all three investigators from the Criminal Investigations Division and three watch sergeants from the Uniform Division.
- 3) Lts. Marlar and Watson and Sgt. Dorbreth attended a "train the trainer" course on "Response to Terrorist Bombings. The course was held in Socorro New Mexico and was fully paid for with Federal Funds. When they returned they trained the entire department in this critical area.
- 4) The Department trained 100 female students in RAD (Rape Aggression Defense).
- 5) The Department conducted several crime prevention classes for members of our sororities. Seventy Five students attended the programs.
- 6) Corporal Keener presented two crime prevention classes to Georgia Power employees at Plant Wansley. There were over approximately 300 in attendance.
- 7) Staff conducted alcohol awareness programs for over 200 students in the residence halls.
- 8) Members of the Criminal Investigation unit acted as assessors in promotion processes for the DeKalb County, Villa Rica and Emory University Police Departments. Our Department benefits from serving on these boards by observing how other agencies conduct promotion processes and by developing personal relationships. This year, due to some of the personal contacts developed with DeKalb PD, our investigators were able to recover a stolen computer that was in DeKalb County.
- 9) Our investigators also serve as our firearms instructors. This year they assisted the Carrollton Police Department with their firearms and force on force training.
- 10) Criminal Investigations took responsibility for handling all lost and found articles turned into the Department. They have worked with the Professional Standards Officer to develop a policy and have put that policy into effect.
- 11) Communications Officers ran in excess of 2000 criminal background checks for the College of Education's Office of Field Experience. The purpose to clear students entering the teacher certification programs prior to placement with schools. These checks were provided at no cost to the College of Education.

7 Student Achievements

NA

8 Other Awards, Distinctions, and Achievements

- 1) Lt. Ned Watson completed the Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police Command College at Columbus State University. He also received his Masters Degree from Columbus State.
- 2) Sgt. Rein Dorebreth was certified by the American Board for Certification in Homeland Security Level 3 specialist in Homeland Security.

UPON COMPLETION

Please email completed report to:

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REMINDER—Include paragraph of departmental accomplishments in your email.