

Lighting on DePauw's Campus

WHITE PAPER NO. 4

A White Paper concerning campus lighting issues

DePauw values the safety of all of its students, at all times, in all locations. It would be unacceptable for a student to be in danger because of something that could have been prevented. In response to student concerns, a Campus Lighting committee was formed to evaluate dark spaces on campus where students do not feel comfortable walking at night. The Campus Lighting Committee toured DePauw's campus with the Director of Public Safety, Angie Nally, and the Operation Superintendent, Dean Rossok October 13, 2010 after dark. The goal of this tour was to evaluate lighting on campus and identify dark places that need more lighting.

As a result of the tour, the Campus Lighting Committee was pleasantly surprised by the overall quality of the lighting situation on campus, and recognized that DePauw truly does care about student safety.

As a result of the tour, DePauw Student Government would like to make the following observations and suggestions for improvement:

1. Lighting situations we found satisfactory

Throughout the survey, we found several places that had adequate lighting:

- Bloomington Street Hall
- Senior Hall
- Cultural Resource Centers
- Rector Village
- North Quad
- Back lot of the PCCM - including 703 Locust Street
- Hogate South Lot
- Duplex area
- Back area of Marvins
- Poplar Street
- Seminary Street Apartments
- Taylor Place
- Bartlett Alumni House
- The center of campus
-
- the Dells

2. Suggestions for improvements of lighting on DePauw's property.

While we understand that many of the dark spots issues on campus can be remedied by people simply turning on their lights, on our tour of campus we found certain areas in need of improvement and special consideration to ensure the safety of the students of DePauw. We would also like the student body to know that several dark areas, such as some stretches of Anderson Street, cannot be remedied because the property is not owned by DePauw.

We ask that campus facilities take into consideration our suggestions, such as:

- A posted light (similar to the one by the stairs of Senior Hall) on the corner of the Senior Hall front lot (Northeast corner).

- 45 ● The dumpster light at Bloomington St. Hall needs to be looked at, as it was going on and off.
- 46 ● Hanna St. Lot was lit, but appeared darker than most parking lots. So we ask for lighting for the
- 47 lot between Alpha Phi and the Chiller (placement at the discretion of the Facilities Office)
- 48 ● The light above the ramp door to the Den needs a new bulb.
- 49 ● Indiana St. at Peeler was dim, potential for additional lighting near the steps to Peeler.
- 50 ● Because the University has so little control over the lighting on Anderson Street, we ask that
- 51 facilities be very careful to maintain and manage the lighting on University owned property.
- 52

53 **3. A standard of lighting for Greek Units.**

54 With Greek property generally having such high traffic, we find it necessary to create a standard of
55 lighting which will help insure the safety of the students of those who pass through the areas at night. We
56 ask that all Greek houses take it upon themselves to be responsible for the safety of their fellow DePauw
57 students and ensure that all lights on their property are working properly and are used appropriately.
58 Lights should, without fail, be turned on after dark, and if a property light is faulty or needs replacement,
59 it would be in the best interest of the campus that these issues be addressed immediately. Greek houses
60 are not technically university-owned, so it is up to the members of the houses to make these changes.
61 Many houses are doing quite well with this practice, but there are some sub-par Greek areas which we
62 would like to see improved in order to make this standard of safety uniform among all houses.

63 These are specific areas that we found to need improvement:

- 64 ● The discomfort in the Administration parking lot stemmed from the darkness caused, most likely,
- 65 by the fact that the it is enclosed by tall buildings and is usually filled with cars. The University
- 66 lighting in this lot was satisfactory, but we ask that ATO fix their light in the area. With the lot
- 67 having such high foot traffic on weekend nights, we feel like this darkness is a high priority safety
- 68 issue.
- 69 ● One street light near Phi Delta Theta was going on and off and needs attention.
- 70 ● We would like Beta to have additional lighting in the front, for as of now there it is highly
- 71 insufficient.
- 72

73 **4. Campus safety is everyone's responsibility.**

74 As members of the DePauw community, we are responsible for each other's safety. We found that many
75 of the dark areas on campus could be remedied if individual houses took responsibility for the lighting
76 that they can and should provide for the street. We ask that residents keep their porch lights on during the
77 evening hours to keep the sidewalks and parking areas lit. By turning on the lights provided by housing,
78 we eliminate the need to erect new lighting structures and make expensive additions to the Campus Plan,
79 while still protecting our fellow classmates.

80 At the time of this White Paper, several Duplexes facing Jackson and Indiana Street do not use their porch
81 lights. The new University-Owned-Housing on Anderson St. be wired to have a porch light on at all
82 times. In particular, we would like to have lighting on at all times at 423, 426, 429 and 431 Anderson
83 Street. 709 Locust, 713 and 719 could use their rear porch lights for additional light. We would like to
84 recommend that timers be put on these porch lights if the students fail to contribute to the overall safety of
85 students by turning on their porch lights.

86 If students fail to take responsibility for their porch lights for the duration of Fall 2010, we would like to
87 request the timers be installed at the beginning of the Spring 2011 semester.

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and Chelsey Jonason

Proposed before a joint meeting of the
Senate and Representatives on 10/31/2010

88

89 Motion by: Chelsey Jonason

Seconded by: Chip Shields

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91 Aye 46

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93 Nay 0

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95 Abstain 0

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97 This 31st day of October, 2010.

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SIGNED COPY ON FILE IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICE

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Christine Walker, President

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103 Attest:

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SIGNED COPY ON FILE IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT OFFICE

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Tyler Hess, Secretary

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