What is CLERY?

Michele Spaulding

Oregon State University is a great place to live, work, and go to school; but have you ever been curious about the type of crime that happens on our campus? In 1990, the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) passed which required campuses who participate in federal student aid programs to disclose campus safety information each year. The idea behind it is that informed consumers make the best decisions about where to send their children to school.

Disclosing crime statistics sounds pretty straightforward until you realize that if you made a delicious turkey sandwich and someone steals it, that sandwich theft could be one of three different crimes depending on the circumstances. If the turkey bandit swiped the sandwich off your desk, it’s Larceny. If the thief grabbed it out of your hands, it’s Robbery. And if your reputation for making delicious turkey sandwiches is such that someone decided to break into your house and snatch it from your refrigerator, it’s Burglary. It’s the same turkey sandwich with the same hungry victim, but three distinct crimes. Two of these are Clery reportable, one is not.

On June 15, 2015, an HR Compliance Team led by Michele Spaulding (Criminal History Checks/Department of Defense Clearances) with the able assistance of Patricia Young (former Retirement Consultant in the Office of Human Resources) and Daniel Greiber (former Human Resources Consultant 2 in the University Administrative Business Center) hit the ground running. They are in the process of getting the 2015 Annual Security Report ready for federal reporting and campus distribution by October 1st!

The team is excited by the wonderful opportunity they have to create new partnerships and continue building on existing relationships with other offices around campus such as the Department of Public Safety, Oregon State Police, Student Conduct, University Housing, the Office of Equity and Inclusion and many more.

Stop by and say hello the next time you’re in the Kerr Administration Building. You can find us in Room 236!