Houghton College has an active prevention of crimes/campus security program. College employees are informed about security-related issues via the employee handbooks, their office supervisors, staff meetings, and Scoop articles, as well as utilizing campus e-mail. Residence hall staff attends training, in which there is emphasis on security and the need to take precautions to ensure personal safety, the safety of others, and to prevent loss. How and when to contact the Safety and Security Department is also emphasized. This information is then disseminated among the student body, through residence hall meetings, the student handbook, voluntary seminars, campus e-mail, posters and advertisements. It is also incorporated into the mandatory program for first year students.

Policy for Reporting Criminal Actions or Other Emergencies

Each student and employee of Houghton College is expected to promptly report any criminal actions or other emergencies to the appropriate authorities. The Campus Safety and Security Office, Houghton Volunteer Fire Department and Houghton College Maintenance Department, as appropriate, will take immediate action to respond. Residence hall directors or assistants act as the point of contact for all emergencies occurring within their residence hall. Appropriate authorities will act immediately on any report of criminal action or other emergencies; will investigate, categorize, and report on each instance; and will involve outside police agencies as appropriate. All confirmed violent crimes will be investigated by the NYS Police.

Campus Law Enforcement

The Safety and Security personnel of Houghton College are uniformed officers, employed by the college to protect Houghton College personnel and property. These officers have the authority to require identification, issue parking citations, and sign complaints with local and state police on behalf of Houghton College. They are on duty twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year.

Security and Access to Campus Facilities

Houghton College is a private institution. During scheduled hours, its facilities are available for all current students, employees, and family members of employees. Guests accompanied by a current student or employee and those who have membership for specific areas, such as the physical education center and library, are also permitted use of college facilities during scheduled hours. Residence halls are secured 24 hours through each semester. Safety and Security deficiencies are immediately acted upon by maintenance personnel 24 hours per day.

Students are responsible for keeping their rooms locked when unoccupied and for keeping personal valuables and college equipment and furnishings secure at all times. They are also expected to keep all exterior doors and windows to residence halls secured during all non-open access hours and to report anything out of the ordinary to Safety and Security.

Safety and Security personnel perform routine security checks of college facilities. They also investigate and act as a catalyst to rectify security deficiencies. Unless immediate danger exists, intruders and security risks in residence halls should be reported to the Resident Director or Resident Director Assistant, who will report to the Safety and Security Office. Immediate threats should be reported directly to Safety and Security at ext. 3330, or 585-567-9333 then to the RD/RDA.

Possession, Use, and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages and Illegal Drugs

For more than a century Houghton College (and its predecessor, Houghton Seminary) has subscribed to a policy of abstinence regarding the use of alcohol and illicit drugs. The possession, use, and/or sale of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs is strictly forbidden at Houghton College for all students and all college employees. Students and employees of Houghton College agree to a Statement of Community, committing themselves to abide by these and other standards of Christian conduct. Violation
of this policy could subject the individual to immediate dismissal from school or employment, as applicable.

Students and employees of Houghton College will neither participate in nor tolerate the possession, use or sale of illegal drugs or alcoholic beverages on campus. Alleged instances of possession, use, and/or sale of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal drugs should be reported to the Safety and Security Office. There are significant health risks associated with the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol. Additional information on health risks is available in the Health Center. Houghton College will provide access to counseling services and to treatment for those college students and employees who seek help in their problems with alcohol and/or drugs and who desire to live a life of sobriety and abstinence. Services and treatment will be at the individual’s expense. The contents of this section are included in accordance with the Drug Free School and Communities Act.

Monitoring and Reporting Off-Campus Student Criminal Activity

Off-campus housing owned by Houghton College is treated the same as residence halls (Residence Coordinators are assigned). Other off-campus housing is owned by community individuals. These houses will comply with the same standards as residence halls. Crimes occurring in these houses are reported by the householders to local police authorities and to the Student Development Office.

Crime Statistics

The Student Right to Know and Campus Security Act requires that all colleges compile information regarding certain crimes on campus. This act also requires this information to be provided to all students, employees, and, upon request, to all who have applied for admission. Houghton College reports crime statistics to the federal registry annually. The caliber of students at Houghton College is reflected by the absence of violent crimes such as rape and assault. Even minor crimes such as petty theft are very uncommon. For the complete report, please contact Safety and Security or go to the national campus crime registry online at:

http://ope.ed.gov/security

From this site, you can also compare statistics with other colleges nationwide.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

Safety and Security:  
Extension 3330 on campus  
or  
(585) 567-9333

Fire Department/Ambulance:  
911

Maintenance:  
Extension 4800  
or  
567-9480

Programs on Campus Safety and Security

Procedures and Practices

August 26, 2014