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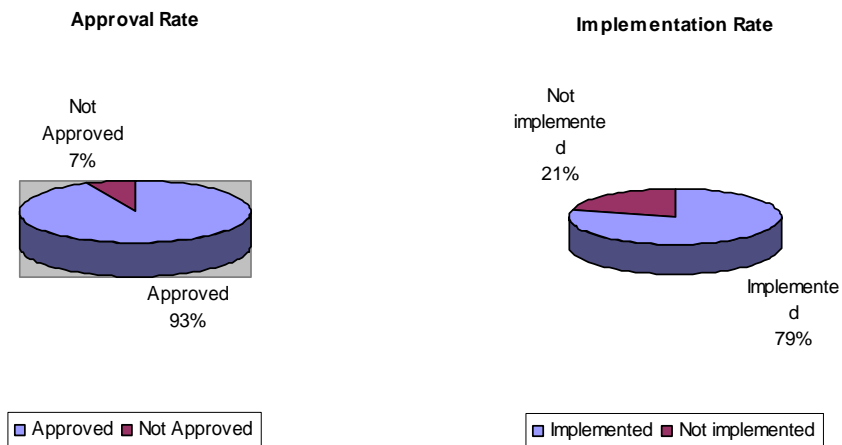
1. INTRODUCTION

As entrusted by H.E. the Rector, and charged by the University Standing Committee bylaws, the Community Affairs Committee set out to fulfill its obligations in identifying the concerns, difficulties and problems confronting the campus community and, based on its findings, presents its recommendations which are aimed at improving the living standards and services to the community living inside the campus.

The Community Affairs Committee (CAC) for the academic year 2002-2003 consisted of the following members:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Chairman: | Dr. Adel S. Aldosary |
| Deputy Chairman: | Dr. Ali Abu Saleh |
| Members: | Dr. Abdullah M. Abulkibash
Dr. Rafat M. Nassar
Dr. Jochim Hans Nickel
Engr. Samir Abdelmohsen
Mr. Ian C. Deacon
Mr. Mansour Ahmed Selham
Mr. Abdulfattah Al-Janabi
Mr. Mohammed Raziuddin
Mrs. Waleeda Wazeer |
| Secretary: | Mr. R. Jayaraman |

The Committee held a total of **31** meetings. The **first** meeting was convened on Wednesday, October 16, 2002, and the **last** on Monday, June 16, 2003. All meetings were held in the Recreation Center. The Committee made a total of **86** recommendations, **80** of them were approved (**93%** Approval Rate), with follow up a total of **63** recommendations were implemented (**79%** Implementation Rate). The following graphs give a descriptive analysis of these statistics.



Upon thorough analysis of the nature of the recommendations which were not implemented, a pattern emerged that calls for a more serious treatment of the overall issues at hand. *A separate confidential recommendation report is attached.*

For a better understanding of the community problems / requirements and to lay the foundation on which the Committee's strategies would be built, information was obtained from:

- Verbal interaction of the Committee members with the community
- Inviting KFUPM community members and members from other KFUPM Standing committees to discuss various issues of concern
- Publicizing a post box number and an e-mail address, which were established exclusively for community feedback
- Receiving suggestions and complaints from the KFUPM Women Group
- Receiving suggestions from KFUPM Residents and students on the developed questionnaire relating to the KFUPM Medical Center.
- Reviewing previous committee recommendations and their implementation status.

The Committee kept forwarding the Rector's instructions on the minutes of its meetings to the relevant administrative departments for necessary actions.

2. CLUBBING OF PENDING ITEMS

The Committee in its meeting #2 held on October 23, 2002, reviewed the pending items which have been carried forward from the previous academic year and subsequently decided to distribute these tasks among the members of the Committee in order to complete the pending work as soon as possible. The details of the pending work are as follows:

Mr. Mohammad Raziuddin is to take care of the following items:

1. KFUPM Clinic Questionnaire to seek input from the Community residents and students on the medical facilities provided by KFUPM Medical Center. Responses were received from the residents and students which were collected and compiled ready for analysis by using a software package.

Mr. Abdulfattah Al-Janabi is to address all security related issues:

1. Bilingual Security Guards should work during the night times to attend to the complaints and calls made by people who do not speak Arabic.
2. Any important circular coming from the Security Department and other offices drawing the attention of the University community should be both in Arabic and English.
3. The Security staff should show courtesy and politeness to the University Community as well as to the visitors.

4. An increased number of security personnel should be posted in the Ferdaws Court to monitor this area regularly to take quick action against those who indulge in vandalism. The Security should do community patrolling, by walking to these places on regular dress instead of wearing their uniform; this will protect their identity and they can check any vandalism committed by young children immediately.
5. Replacement of the “Stop” sign placed at the entrance of Ferdaws court (at the T-junction between Ferdaws and Al-Nuzza Courts) with an “Yield” sign, because there is clear visibility of the oncoming traffic.
6. The traffic signal located between the bridge and before the American Consulate should be made to function simultaneously on both directions, in order to give way to cars coming from Al-Khobar area. This would enable free flow of traffic from Al-Khobar side, which gets held up because of non-opening of the traffic light.

Mr. Samir Abdulmohsen will take care of the following items:

1. Laying of a new road connecting the main road coming from the University Stadium after the Boys’ School Intersection which would lead to the Girls’ School directly instead of going all the way up to the Ferdaws Road and Ferdaws Belt Road and then take a turn to the Girls’ School directly instead of going all the way up to the Coop Store area and then take a turn to the Girls’ School.
2. The majority of zebra crossings are faded and neither proper signed nor proper illuminated. Also, there is a lack of maintenance of walkways and zebra crossings. There is a considerable amount of reckless driving by teenagers within the Campus resulting in accidents. Also, the parking lots are frequently misused for illegal motor sports activities and there is a lack of law enforcement regarding frequent teenager driving and racing.
3. As a temporary solution, the bus stop near the Ferdaws Court, which is currently used by the Co-op Store as a storehouse, should be converted to a recreational facility for use by the young children and teenagers. The Co-op store can use the bus stop located between Dr. Bakr’s house and the Recreation Center for their storage purposes.

Mr. Mansour Selham of the Recreation Center will follow-up on the following points:

1. The Recreation Center pool should provide shading in the shallow side of the pool to avoid children getting sunstroke, especially during summer months.
2. Development of a new play area, which would enable the male students and their friends to spend their leisure time, safely and properly.
3. Suitable recreational facilities including outdoor and indoor events (gymnasium, tennis and basketball courts, billiards, table tennis, etc.), should be provided which would enable the small children and youth to spend their spare time actively and productively.

Dr. Ali Abu-Saleh is responsible for the following items:

1. The Medical Center must improve and upgrade its emergency system. The emergency telephone calls should be recorded and automatically switched to all relevant authorities (including Ambulance Section, Doctor-on-Call, Security, etc.). Mock emergencies should be initiated and the response as well as response time should be noted to see the response from the concerned people.

Dr. Rafat M. Nassar will take care of the following:

1. The University should stop charging the fee of SR.500 for issuing permits to these outside caterers to enter the University Campus, as this charge is passed on by the outside caterers to the consumers by charging extra amount for the food items ordered, as this leads to monopoly by current vendors, and limits choices available.

Mr. Ian C. Deacon, Dr. Abdullah Abulkibash and Ms. Waleeda Wazeer will take care of the following subjects:

1. Holding a Family Fair by the University Community thoroughly and make appropriate recommendations. Due to the prevailing circumstances during March-April 2002, the Fair could not be held. Therefore, the allocated amount of SR.10,000 has been transferred for use by the Committee for holding the Fair during the academic year 2002-2003.

Dr. Joachim Nickel will follow up on the following issue:

1. The possibility of employing three full time staff (one female and two male employees as social activity coordinators) to work in the Community Affairs Committee was discussed and recommended for appointment in the University. They would work on a full time basis under the supervision of the Community Affairs Committee, but under the overall umbrella of the Recreation Center. Advertising to be done by the Dean of Faculty & Personnel Affairs for the three positions with the abovementioned qualifications, experience and job description in local newspapers.

Dr. Adel Aldosary isto take charge of the following:

1. KFUPM Social Community Institute (KSCI): Last year, Dr. Mohammed Shwehdi submitted his ideas related to the establishment of KFUPM Social Community Institute (KSCI).
2. Importance of coordination among three Committees, viz., Community Affairs Committee, Traffic Safety Committee and Safety and Security Committee so that the common problems being faced by all the three committees could be sorted out immediately and solutions found. On the instructions of H.E. the Rector, the approved Minutes of all these three committees are being distributed among each

other for their information. In addition, Dr. Aldosary may consider having periodic meeting with the Chairman of the Traffic Safety Committee.

3. FORMATION OF SUB-COMMITTEES

The Committee constituted the following sub-committees during the academic year.

- a. Sub-Committee to study the blueprint of the Medical Center in order to provide a separate entrance for female patients and also increase the waiting area space in the Dental Clinic.**

The Committee in its meeting #7 held on November 26, 2002, recommended appointment of a Sub-Committee to study the blueprint of the Medical Center in order to provide a separate entrance for female patients and also increase the waiting area space in the Dental Clinic.

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Zahrani.. | Projects & Maintenance |
| 2. | Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Shehri .. | Medical Center |
| 3. | Mr. Hassan Al-Nazhah .. | Architecture Department |
| 4. | Dr. Javed Iqbal .. | Medical Center |

The Sub-Committee will report its findings and recommendations to the Community Affairs Committee as soon as possible for further action.

- b. Sub-Committee to review the existing KFUPM Master Plan and update the master plan with all the relevant data in order.**

The Committee in its meeting #7 held on November 26, 2002, recommended appointment of a Sub-Committee to study the review the existing KFUPM Master Plan and update the Master Plan with all the relevant data.

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|----|----------|
| 1. | Dr. Adel Aldosary | .. | Chairman |
| 2. | Dr. Hassan Al-Ahmadi | .. | Member |
| 3. | Dr. Habib Alshuwaikhat | .. | Member |
| 4. | Dr. Abdulgader Amir | .. | Member |
| 5. | Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Shehri | .. | Member |
| 6. | Mr. Fouad Al-Mouaid | .. | Member |
| 7. | Mr. Mohammad Raziuddin | .. | Member |

It is worth noting that Dr. Aldosary, Dr. Alshuwaikhat, Dr. Al-Ahmadi , Mr. Al-Shehri and Mr. Raziuddin, served in a previous committee to work on Land Use patterns for Housing of Students, and started a Master Plan initiative but work was stopped after the housing land plots were prepared. The Sub-Committee will review the existing KFUPM Maser Plan and after a thorough study of all the details, update the master plan. Mr. Mohammad Raziuddin will coordinate with various departments in the University to obtain the required information in order to update the master plan. Mr. Al-Mouaid is to

be given full support and access to all Projects and Maintenance Data and maps for the committee work purposes.

The Sub-Committee will submit its report to H.E. the Rector after a reasonable period of time.

Subsequently, the Sub-Committee (CAC # 11) was reconstituted by dropping Dr. Abdulgader Amir due to conflict of interest.

c. Sub-Committee to draft a comprehensive evacuation plan in case of any emergency such as war and submit its guidelines to the Community Affairs Committee.

The Committee in its meeting #8 recommended appointment of an ad hoc committee consisting of Dr. Rafat M. Nassar and Mr. Samir Abdul-Mohsen to draft a comprehensive evacuation plan in case of any emergency such as war and submit these Guidelines to the Community Affairs Committee for further discussion and recommendation in the next meeting of the Committee.

In addition to the above mentioned sub-committees, as and when required, the Committee constituted ad hoc committees to look into specific issues and provide its input to the Community Affairs Committee for further discussion and action.

4. COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES FOR ISSUES RAISED IN 2002-2003

This section is broken down into *problems / concern*, committee *findings* resulting from discussions and investigations, *recommendations*, and *actions* taken by committee or other KFUPM units to address the problem / concern.

4.1 KFUPM School Bus Service

The Committee discussed this subject in its meeting # 2 and made the following recommendation which was subsequently approved by H.E. the Rector:

The Committee recommends the following steps to ensure that children using KFUPM bus service reach their homes safely:

1. Parents should volunteer to travel in the bus along with the children and ensure that the children travel in the bus properly and in an orderly manner without distracting the attention of the driver. In addition, the parents can make sure that the children alight from the bus in an orderly manner, cross the zebra crossing properly to reach their homes.
2. The Security Department should install Flash lights near the zebra crossing in order to make the drivers aware of these crossings so that they would slow down their car speed.
3. The buses could be fitted with wireless communication system. The wireless communication system could be specifically designed only to communicate between the bus driver, their Transportation Department and the Security Department, during any emergency situation.

4. The Security personnel should park their cars near the bus stop area at the time the school bus drops the children, in order to ensure that the children cross the roads properly. The security staff should do this on a continuous basis for a period at least for a month, so that the children will get accustomed to adopting safety while crossing roads, etc.
5. The young bus drivers should be given proper orientation about their duties and responsibilities, especially when they drop the children from the school.

4.2 Buses for Shopping Trips to KFUPM Community

The Committee recommends that at least two buses should be made available for families for their shopping trip. In addition, at least one or two bus drivers should be made available on a standby basis. The frequency of the shuttle bus service on campus should be increased, at least from 3.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. every day in order to enable the new comers to visit the Recreation Center and other places without any difficulty.

4.3 Safety and Security in the Campus

According to H.E. the Rector's instructions, the Campus residents should not overburden the University Administration with all the problems being faced by them and they should be prepared to share some of these responsibilities keeping in mind the larger interests of the University residents as a whole. The Rector specifically mentioned that parents could act as volunteers to accompany the children in the KFUPM school buses in order to enable them to personally supervise the children's behavior and attitude in adopting safety standards while traveling as well as while alighting from the buses.

Some members suggested that it will be a good idea if the KFUPM Schools demonstrate to the students about the need of safety and security while they travel in the school bus, their attitude towards fellow students, and general discipline. The school authorities can make a power point presentation to the students. The Community Affairs Committee could also help the schools in this regard. Similarly, the newly hired young bus drivers should be given proper orientation on their duties and responsibilities and a power-point presentation should be given to them as well. Flyers could be prepared to educate them on the safety and security aspects relating to driving buses, pedestrian safety, etc. Dr. Nickel has volunteered to obtain information on this subject so that a presentation to the school bus drivers could be arranged.

During the course of discussion, one member said that the bus drivers should not answer mobile phone calls, which distract their attention while driving the bus. This suggestion is well taken by the Committee.

As a result of a detailed discussion on several points relating to safety and security, the Committee in its meeting #3 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that the University school should conduct a few power point presentations to the students emphasizing the need of discipline, safety and security so that they are well educated on the safety aspect. Similarly, the young bus

drivers should be given proper orientation on their duties and responsibilities relating to their work. The Community Affairs Committee would prepare the required material and provide them to the respective officials concerned for presentation.

4.4 Assignment of a New Telephone Number to the Recreation Center

The Committee noted that the University provides several important facilities to the Campus residents, especially the bus facilities, Recreation Center facilities and other public facilities. However, at times, these facilities are either withdrawn at short notices or canceled for one reason or another. Such changes or cancellation are not informed to the Community residents and they get disappointed and frustrated on not being informed in a timely manner. Dr. Aldosary, therefore, requested that the Projects & Maintenance Department should immediately put on the Electronic Bulletin Board of the University any changes in the facilities including recreational center facilities for the information of the campus residents as they become available. Mr. Mansour Selham will coordinate with Mr. Samir Abdul-Mohsen and mark all important circulars coming out of the Recreation Center with a copy to the projects & Maintenance Department to include these information on the Electronic Bulletin Board of the University. Similarly, the Recreation Center should display outside the main gate if any facility is temporarily closed for maintenance work, or for other reasons for the general information of the Campus residents. In addition, many members suggested to assign a special telephone number in the Recreation Center which will provide information to the callers on the changes, if any, in the original schedule of the Center. In addition, all important news will be stored on an interactive voice message system which will enable the caller to get information quickly. On the basis of the detailed discussion, the Committee in its meeting #3 made the following recommendation:

The Committee recommends assignment of a special telephone number to the Recreation Center with interactive voice message facility in order to enable the Campus Residents to get information about the Recreation Center facilities and if there is any change in the originally announced schedule, etc.

4.5 Water-flooding on Campus

Dr. Adel Aldosary stated that several complaints were received from the University community relating to the water logging in the Campus because of recent rains. These complaints are mainly on water logging in low lying areas such as the back road leading to Nakheel courts, Ferdaws Court, and Farook Court Mosque area.

He suggested that the Projects & Maintenance Department should take immediate steps to level the roads properly by filling the low lying areas to avoid water flooding during the rainy season. Water flooding also poses a dangerous threat to drive cars. In the alternative, the Maintenance Department can send a team of experts to those areas where water logging takes place frequently and arrange to remove the water by using water suction pumps. However, the long term solution to overcome this problem is to level the roads properly. Subsequently, the Committee in its meeting #5 made the following recommendation:

The Committee recommends that the Projects & Maintenance Department should visit the areas where water flooding occurred recently in places such as the back road leading to Nakheel courts, Ferdaws Court, and Farook Court Mosque area. Leveling of the roads which are not uniformly laid should be done quickly and proper drainage facility should be provided to overcome water flooding during the rainy season. As a temporary solution, heavy water suction pumps should be used to remove the accumulated water.

4.6 Regulation of Traffic near the KFUPM School

The Committee observed that there is heavy traffic jam near the KFUPM school area due to several vehicles coming from outside the University campus to drop their children in the school. This results in frequent accidents in this area. In order to overcome this problem, at least a few security personnel should be posted in the morning hours near the school to monitor and regulate the traffic. As a result of the discussion, the Committee in its meeting #5 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that the Director General of Security & Safety should post a few security staff in the morning period from 6.45 A.M. until 7.15 A.M. near the KFUPM School to regulate the heavy traffic in order to avoid frequent traffic accidents taking place in this area.

4.7 Opening of Gate #2 (North Gate)

Several members felt that from security and safety point of view, it is very important that this gate must be kept open. This is because for the entire KFUPM Community, if there is any emergency situation, there is only one gate available to exit from the Campus. Close to the main gate, there is a restaurant close to a main gas station with a sharp entrance angle being run by a private contractor and it also poses a safety hazard for the community in case any accident happens to the petrol delivery truck entering that gas station. If there is any emergency situation in the faculty and student housing area, exiting from the only gate by the University community will pose a lot of dangerous situation as well as logistical difficulties with severe consequences. Also the committee noted that the university recently installed large sign board labeled "ASSEMBLY AREA" based on the recommendation of the Civil Defense Authority of the Government which indicates the urgency for the need to have the second gate open on a 24 hours basis, as the situation may suddenly require immediate evacuation of residents. Therefore, it is very important to keep the North Gate remain open 24 hours a day like the main gate.

After a lengthy discussion on this subject, the Committee felt there is a strong justification to keep the Gate #2 without any closure. Thereafter, the Committee in its meeting #5 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that the KFUPM Gate #2 located near Saudi Aramco side should be kept open 24 hours similar to the Main Gate in order to ensure meeting minimum urban security and campus safety standards requirements for a safe exit and evacuation of campus residents and to enable the Campus residents to enter and exit the University Campus without any difficulty in case of any emergency situation.

4.8 Discipline Among KFUPM School Children

Dr. Aldosary contacted the Manager of KFUPM School and he informed that during the current academic year, each of the school buses is accompanied by a teacher to ensure that children alight from the bus properly and cross the road correctly. However, there are some instances where the bus is overcrowded and the children are forced to stand very close to the bus driver which leads to unavoidable problems. The bus drivers should be dissuaded from using mobile phones while driving the buses, they should be stopped from waving their hands at the oncoming cars to give way as these are distractions which may result in accidents, etc. Similarly, on occasions, it has been noticed that the bus driver does not stop until the children cross the road and start his bus. It is suggested that experienced drivers who have proven track record with regard to safety and security should be posted to drive school buses to ensure adequate safety and security. Dr. Aldosary also felt the need to meet Mr. Ali Helal, the Director of Transportation to ensure that experienced drivers are posted to operate the school buses. Subsequently, Dr. Aldosary informed that he is arranging to compile materials for a power point presentation in the school shortly.

Some members suggested that it will be a good idea if the KFUPM Schools demonstrate to the students about the need of safety and security while they travel in the school bus, their attitude towards fellow students, and general discipline. The school authorities can make a power point presentation to the students. The Community Affairs Committee could also help the schools in this regard. Similarly, the newly hired young bus drivers should be given proper orientation on their duties and responsibilities and a power-point presentation should be given to them as well. Flyers could be prepared to educate them on the safety and security aspects relating to driving buses, pedestrian safety, etc. Dr. Nickel has volunteered to obtain information on this subject so that a presentation to the school bus drivers could be arranged. As a result of a detailed discussion, the Committee in its meeting #5 made the following recommendation:

The Committee recommends to conduct, as soon as possible, a few power point presentations to the students emphasizing the need of discipline, safety and security so that they are well educated on the safety aspect. Also, a presentation will be given to the bus drivers with specific emphasis on safety and security practices.

4.9 Queuing System at the Medical Center

Based on the discussion of the Committee in its meeting #4 held on November 5, 2002, which recommended that Dr. Aldosary and Mr. Samir Abdul-Mohsen visit the clinic and met the Director General of the Medical Center to obtain the details of the new measures which are being implemented by the Medical Center.

Dr. Aldosary informed that he had an extended discussion with the Director General of Medical Center, Engineer Abdulaziz A. Al-Shehri about the inordinate delay taking place in obtaining the prescribed medicines from the Pharmacy on account of the recently introduced system. From the information that he gathered from the Medical Center, Dr. Aldosary felt that the Medical Center is not technically ready for introducing this system because many of the staff members are not well trained for the online work. Therefore, it is better to keep the existing situation until all the records of the University community is available online to the Medical Center for easy retrieval and updating during dispensation of medicines and until the Medical Center staff are adequately trained for the new system.

Even though the spirit behind introducing online system for providing medicine is very good as it will help inventory management, keeping an accurate record of medicines given to the patients for verification in case of need and also to build database on various subjects relating to the Medical Center and the patient's case history, etc., however, the premature implementation of this new system without complete support from ITC and Personnel records as well as proper training is not possible and can be counterproductive.

Therefore, many members felt that until such time the Smart Card is provided to all the employees of the University, the Pharmacy can get employees' and students' particulars by getting information through the employee and student ID cards which are regularly renewed by the Deanship of Faculty & Personnel Affairs and also by the Deanship of Student Affairs. The bar code given on the backside of the ID card gives information on the card holder and the Pharmacy staff can scan the bar code to directly access the patient's data. However, many of the ID card holders have not updated their ID Cards. Under the circumstances, the Committee recommends to revert to the old system till such time the smart card is fully implemented or a bar code sticker is affixed to all community id holders on their own ID cards through the personnel department. Thereafter, the Committee in its meeting #5 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that until the Medical Center is fully prepared to dispense medicine online by introducing Smart Card system and train the Clinic employees thoroughly, the existing system of distributing medicines on the basis of manually entering the record should be continued. The Committee also recommends that the Medical Center should contact ITC to design a program for this purpose as soon as possible.

4.10 Repair work undertaken at KFUPM Campus

People living in the Ferdous and Nakheel courts or those going to the schools are very much disturbed by the very long time of closing the roads for pavement. The Projects & Maintenance Department is saying there is a problem in the asphalt amounts available in the market. Therefore, something has to be done regarding scheduling such projects.

The Committee reviewed the complaint and sympathized with Dr. Al-Suwailem regarding the traffic dislocation on account of repair work being undertaken near the

Nakheel Court. Many members felt that such work should be undertaken only during summer period when there is less number of people living in the University Campus. There is no sign board kept giving any information about the rerouting of the road, traffic diversion, etc. Also, there is no information available about the expected date of completion of this road repair work. Both the Campus residents and the visitors are not aware of the direction to take to reach their destination especially the Ferdous courts area where the directions within for way finding are very vague.

Dr. Aldosary stated that if there is a GIS Plan is available for the University, many of these problems being faced by the Community residents in this part of campus could be avoided. Therefore, he stressed the importance of developing the GIS Plan for the University as soon as possible. He has requested Mr. Mohammad Raziuddin to work on this important assignment as soon as possible and develop key directions panels to be located at the entrance to each Ferdous area road identifying the general plan layout of the units around the road and the block diagram of these units with their numbers clearly marked on the panel to guide residents and visitors through these units.

Based on the information provided by Mr. Samir Abdul-Mohsen that the contractor is unable to get the required asphalt quantity from the market, the road repair work is being delayed, the Committee felt that the University Administration should contact Saudi Aramco to supply the required material to the contractor to expedite completion of the repair work and ease the suffering of the residents. On the basis of the discussion, the Committee recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that the University Administration should contact Saudi Aramco immediately with a request to supply the required amount of asphalt and other repair material to the contractor involved in the road repair work near Nakheel Court so that the work gets completed faster. This will solve the enormous problems being faced by the University Community at present.

4.11 Emergency Services

The Committee noted that whenever there is any emergency type situation including power failure taking place in the faculty residential area, the Maintenance Department personnel do not attend to the emergency calls immediately. On many occasions, the messages are not communicated to the maintenance people in a timely manner. Also, it takes quite a lot of time for them to visit the spot where the emergency has occurred such as power failure, etc. There are several locations on Campus where frequent default occurs in the wiring and the Maintenance Department must take immediate action especially in Loops 0 to 6. The Maintenance Department should also check the transformers regularly. It is advisable that preventive maintenance work is undertaken on a regular basis rather than doing repair work after a major mishap occurs.

The Committee also observed that whenever there is a road repair work, or other maintenance-related assignment, the Campus residents are not informed well in advance so that they will be prepared for any eventuality. Similarly, the Committee noted at present, road repair work, including asphaltting work is taking place in the road starting from the Loop area leading to Ferdous and Nakheel Courts. However, there is no notice

board indicating that due to the repair work, there is traffic diversion and people must take different routing, to reach Ferdous and Nakheel Courts.

The Committee also noted that there is a sudden spurt in the house flies on Campus, especially in the residential areas after the recent rain. The fly menace has reached an alarming proportion and therefore, action must be initiated immediately to stop the nuisance by spraying insecticides on stagnant water pools, inside the dustbins, etc. Failure to take prompt action might lead to severe health hazards.

Subsequently, the Committee noted that during any emergency, if an ambulance is requested from the Medical Center, it does not reach the destination very fast. The Committee is of the opinion that the ambulance drivers, who are full-time medical employees, are not aware of the entire location of the Campus. Similarly, they get confused in identifying the particular housing unit due to lack of directional map, specific landmark area, etc. Therefore, it is very essential to develop a visual retrieval system by using the GIS system which is being developed. After doing a pilot test, the scheme is expected to be introduced on campus. For this purpose, the detailed 'As-Built' University Campus Housing area maps must be provided by the Maintenance Department. Once the GIS system is fully operational, all the inconveniences being faced at present in locating a particular area, or service will be eliminated.

In the absence of a specific visual landmark, or color code or diagram, visitors from outside the Campus find it very difficult to locate a specific housing unit. Different suggestions were made by members to establish proper identification plan of the housing units in the Ferdaws Court area. Some members felt that different color coding system should be adopted to distinguish the houses in the Ferdaws Court. A few members stated that flagpoles with different color flags for diverse areas should be introduced. Based on a detailed discussion on the above mentioned subjects, the Committee in its meeting #6 made the following recommendation:

- 1 . The messages conveyed to the Projects & Maintenance Department relating to any emergency subject should be attended to immediately. Proper coordination between the Emergency Services and the Complaints Recording System should be established.
- 2 . The Projects & Maintenance Department should undertake preventive maintenance work on a regular basis regarding the faulty electric lines on several locations in the residential area to prevent any major mishap.
- 3 . Whenever any road repair work is undertaken by the Projects & Maintenance Department, a bulletin board indicating clearly the diversion routes should be kept for the information of the residents and visitors.
- 4 . The Housing & Office Services Department should initiate immediate steps to undertake spraying insecticides in those places where there is water stagnation, spillage of garbage, etc., to prevent any health hazard due to the sudden increase in the house flies on campus.
- 5 . The Director General of Projects & Maintenance should supply the Community Affairs Committee the detailed 'As-Built' University Campus Housing area maps in order to develop the GIS Plan for the Campus which will be useful for the Campus residents as well as for the visitors to know the facilities and services available on campus.
- 6 . The Projects & Maintenance Department must erect flag poles with different color flags in Ferdaws Court for easy identification of the housing units in this area.

7. The Projects & Maintenance Department should arrange to put up Bulletin Boards with Color Coded Schematic maps for each set of Housing Units at the entrance to each road in residential areas on campus, once finalized by the committee (upon receiving the as built plans as in #5 above), to be placed all over the Campus residential areas for easy identification of houses both by campus residents and visitors.

4.12 Provision of Telephone Facilities in the Loop Areas

The Committee reviewed the request of a Campus Resident and noted that it is essential to have telephone facilities in all the loop areas in Ferdaws court and the telephones which were available inside the laundries could be easily fitted outside these laundries for use by the residents. Mr. Samir Abdul-Mohsen stated that the Projects & Maintenance Department would take immediate steps to do the needful in this regard. As a result of the discussion, the Committee in its meeting #8 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that the Projects & Maintenance Department should immediately arrange to install telephone booths outside the laundries for use by the Campus residents in general and those who are living in Ferdaws Court in particular.

4.13 Long delay in completion of renovation of Ferdaws Court Belt Road

The Committee received several complaints from the residents relating to the repair work being carried out at Ferdaws Court Belt Road. It was stated by many residents that this project is taking a lot of time to finish. They also questioned whether it would have been possible to finish it more quickly. They also mentioned that that it should not take such a long time to complete the work and requests that the renovation of the road be completed immediately. The Committee also reviewed the slow nature of the progress work of repair and subsequently Mr. Samir Abdul-Mohsen informed the Committee that the work is in the final stages of completion. The contractors have reassured the projects & Maintenance Department that they have started paving the road and if there is no interruption in the form of rain, the work would be completed within the next ten days' time.

4.14 Hiring of new Employees to the Community Affairs Committee who will work in the Recreation Center

Dr. Aldosary informed that the Arabic version of the job description provided by the Dean of Faculty & Personnel Affairs is being reviewed by him prior to evaluating the applications received for these positions and their subsequent interview. He also stressed that these employees will report for administrative purposes to the Director of Recreation Center; however, the overall tasks for these employees will be assigned by the Community Affairs Committee. In order to safeguard the structure of this delicate balance in the functions of these three employees, the Committee in its meeting #9 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that the three employees who will be hired by the university should form the Community Affairs Office, and would be located within the

Recreation Center, and will report to the Community Affairs Committee for its functions, programs, and approval of events and other activities, but will be administratively part of the Recreation center.

4.15 Lack of alternative Recreation Facilities available for KFUPM Campus children and youth

Mr. Abdulfattah Al-Janabi informed the Committee that on the basis of the approved recommendation relating to stoppage of youth and teenagers from gathering near the Recreation Center and creating nuisance in this area, several steps were taken recently by the Security personnel to prevent youngsters from gathering and loitering around the Recreation Center. However, subsequently the Security personnel noticed that the teenagers broke the signs that said “No loitering allowed here” near the Recreation Center because of lack of entertainment facilities to spend their free time usefully and productively. This violent reaction on the part of the youth is mainly because of lack of recreational facilities available on campus for these youngsters. The main problem being faced by the youth in the community is lack of social life. In order to provide better entertainment in the form of additional playgrounds, recreational activities and other projects where the youth can usefully spend his time in order to keep himself occupied and learn new skills, etc., substantial financial allocation is required. The appointment of youth activity coordinators would help overcome this problem to a very great extent. There are several vacant areas near the Recreation Center, especially in front of the Recreation Center which can be developed to build a Community Center for the youth. After a detailed discussion, the Committee in its meeting #9 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that immediate steps be taken to provide better entertainment in the form of additional playgrounds, recreational activities and other projects for the teenagers so that they are able to use their free time actively and productively.

4.16 Improvement of KFUPM Beach Facilities

Mr. Mansour Selham informed the Committee that it is extremely important to improve the University beach facilities. For a long period of time, no specific step was taken to upgrade the facilities in the beach even though the number of users visiting the beach has been increasing every year. Specifically, the following points must be noted and immediate steps need to be taken for their implementation:

1. More fresh water must be provided, as the existing water supply is woefully insufficient to meet the growing number of visitors to the beach.
2. More vegetation and additional landscaping work must be undertaken.
3. Separate toilet facilities should be provided for bachelors.
4. Leveling of the play area should be made immediately in order to enable the visitors to play basket ball, tennis, football, etc.
5. Additional parking facilities should be provided.
6. Steps must be taken to remove the rocky and busy areas so that extra moving space is available for the visitors.

7. The debris in the beach facility should be cleared immediately and regular maintenance of the beach should be undertaken.
8. Improvement of the main gate access should be done in keeping with the standards of the University. The existing access is very old and does not appear elegant, nor does it represent the University Image.
9. New switch panel must be installed in order to control the main gate lighting
10. Provision of shovel machine to undertake temporary maintenance work.
11. Shades should be maintained and subdivided to accommodate more families
12. Camping area should be leveled and provided with water and electricity

In view of the above mentioned problems, the Committee is of the opinion that the University Administration must take steps to improve the University beach facilities. Subsequently, the Committee in its meeting #9 made the following recommendation:

The Committee recommends that the University Administration should initiate immediate steps to improve the University beach facilities, which have become very old and require urgent maintenance.

4.17 Provision of More Play Areas in Ferdaws Court

Mr. Ian Deacon informed the Committee that very young children of the age group of 6 and below frequently cross their play area and goes to the main streets and expose themselves to fatal accidents by speeding cars. Therefore, it is very essential that proper fencing should be done in those areas (which are very few in number) which are close to the main roads in Ferdaws Court so that even by mistake, children do not cross their respective play areas. Additional playgrounds with grasses should be provided in Ferdaws court where more than 60 per cent of the KFUPM Community resides. By creating additional playgrounds for children far away from the main roads, small children can play care-free. Additionally, better sitting facilities for mothers should be made available in order to enable them to supervise their children.

After an extensive discussion on the subject, Dr. Aldosary informed the members that he would review the KFUPM Master Plan where specific play areas have been identified for the children in Ferdaws Court and subsequently, on a personal visit to the Ferdaws Court, suitable steps would be taken to provide additional play areas for the children. He has requested Mr. Raziuddin to bring to the Committee the blow-up sectional maps of these identified areas in Ferdaws Court for proper identification of the proposed areas where play areas could be developed and for a site visit by the committee subsequently. On the basis of this discussion, the Committee in its meeting #9 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that the Projects & Maintenance Department should immediately provide safety fences around the existing play areas in Ferdaws Court which are close to the main roads in order to prevent young children from going into the main roads.

4.18 Petition received from a Research Assistant

Mr. Yusuf Adedoyin Aina, a Research Assistant (RA), working in the City & Regional Planning Department submitted an appeal on December 31, 2002, to the Community Affairs Committee. In his letter, he narrated the plight of married research assistants as regards family visa and housing. According to him, it is very difficult for an RA to get an approval for a family visa (for wife) due to inability to prove that there will be adequate support for his family on arrival. The issue of housing is the topmost as RAs do not have official allocation to family housing. RA has to get an accommodation outside the University Campus and even need to get a car (as the community transit is automobile dependent). RA cannot afford these expenses. Thus, a married RA is left with the option of parting with member of his family probably throughout his studies. Married RA is always probably psychologically and emotionally unstable and this affects his effectiveness. He added that the University is under NO OBLIGATION to provide family housing for RA but I think the Committee could help on compassionate, moral and religious ground. He therefore appealed to the University to look into his and other married Research Assistants request favorably and facilitate them by providing family housing. He added that moderate fees could be charged for this provision. By living on Campus, the RA could save transport cost and also be more effective at his duty.

The Committee reviewed the current salary structure and other perks provided to the Research Assistants and their duties and responsibilities in their respective departments. A Research Assistant is paid a monthly salary of SR 1,000 and no other monetary benefit is given to him, except a shared-bachelor accommodation with other RAs, free transportation from his accommodation to the academic buildings. However, in several departments, the RAs are overburdened with lab supervision work, grading work, assisting their advisers in other academic related activities, which do not compare favorably with the salary that they get. As a result of the poor benefits given to them, many of them look out for suitable jobs both within the Kingdom and outside and once they get firm job offers, they leave the University in order to take up employment. This results in a huge amount of turn around and puts into disarray the carefully planned programs and policies of the University with regard to new academic programs, increased amount of research and other activities.

Research Assistants help quite considerably in faculty research, grading assignments, lab supervision and other academic responsibilities given by the respective departments. Their working hours is not structured and it depends upon the department chairmen. Several departments do not have enough research assistants and their academic programs suffer on account of this. Therefore, it is very essential that suitable upward revision in the pay package of RAs must be made and, wherever possible, they should be helped.

It is understandable that these RAs sign their respective contracts to work partly as students and partly as employees in the academic departments, but once they arrive in the Kingdom, they feel very much dejected and disappointed over the poor pay packet and other facilities. This result in negative growth in the enrollment of RAs and the University, after incurring a huge amount of money and efforts in their selection, cannot retain them until they complete their Graduate Program.

A suggestion was made by a member that the University should operate bus services to bring employees living outside the Campus such as from nearby areas including Al-Khobar and Dammam by making them assemble in a few predetermined points. This would avoid heavy traffic congestion on Campus in the morning hours from 6.45 a.m. until 7.30 a.m., and also would help the staff members who do not have transportation facility to come to the University. Mr. Abdulfattah Janabi informed the Committee that the University is currently trying to accommodate some staff members in an outside residential complex in Al-Khobar and Dammam, and once they are located in buildings which are to be taken on long lease by the University, KFUPM will start operating bus services to bring these employees to the Campus. However, many members felt that this is not an immediate solution to the Research Assistants who seek redress for their grievances.

Subsequently, the Committee felt that if there is genuine case of a married Research Assistant seeking accommodation on campus to bring his family, his request may be favorably considered. After further discussion on the subject, the Committee in its meeting #10 made the following recommendation:

The Committee recommends that the plight of the Research Assistants in terms of changing the current contract system, especially the clause relating to family accommodation should be addressed by the University Administration. Similarly, the University should consider a small increase in the salary of the RAs which is very low at present (SR. 1000 per month) which would at least enable them to get housing accommodation outside the University Campus.

4.19 Complaint about Disposal Procedure Adopted by Meshwar Restaurant

Dr. Abdullah Abulkibash informed the Committee that several residents living in the adjoining areas close to the Meshwar Restaurant have complained to him on the bad odor emanating from the Restaurant. This is because; lately it appears that the kitchen waste is being disposed off by the restaurant in an unhygienic manner in an open area without taking suitable steps to contain the bad smell. The Committee felt that this is a very serious matter and should be examined immediately by the University services. On the basis of the discussion, the Committee in its meeting #10 recommended the following:

The Committee recommends that the General Supervisor for Central Services depute a team from the Medical Center, Housing and Office Services, Food Services along with a representative from the Maintenance personnel to Meshwar Restaurant to make an on-the-spot inspection about the waste disposal procedure adopted by the Restaurant and initiate suitable preventive measures immediately.

The Committee also discussed the importance to fence the play area where small children play in Hayel Street, so that children do not cross the play ground area and enter the main road where speeding cars and vehicles may pose danger to their life. Therefore, the Committee after some discussion in its meeting #11, made the following recommendation:

The Committee recommends that the Projects & Maintenance Department take immediate steps to erect fences in the play area in Hayel Street, as indicated in the

attached map. In addition, the Committee recommends conveying the suggestions made by Mr. Ian Deacon for immediate implementation by the Projects & Maintenance Department. Mr. Samir M. Abdel-Mohsen is to supervise this operation and explain the details to the implementing team.

5. KFUPM MEDICAL CENTER

Dr. Aldosary invited Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Shehri, Director General of KFUPM Medical Center to the meeting of the Committee (#12) held on January 21, 2003 during which period the discussion was focused on the KFUPM Medical Center. As a result of a detailed discussion, the Committee in its meeting #12 made several recommendations, which are as follows:

1. At least two doctors, four male nurses and two Ambulance drivers should be recruited and posted in the Medical Center as soon as possible in order to serve the University Community efficiently and properly.
2. A new telephone number to be used only for emergency purposes should be provided with the facility that whenever a call is made in this number, both the emergency staff members in the Medical Center and the security staff are alerted immediately.
3. The laboratory of Medical Center needs to be redesigned with more floor area, refurbished and relocated if needed to safely accommodate the increased number of equipments, staff and the patients (in specimen receiving area) so as to create a safe working environment for all.
4. The doctors and nurses should be allowed to attend seminars and conferences on a periodical basis in order to familiarize themselves with the latest developments taking place. This will enable them to serve the KFUPM Community efficiently.

6. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR PURCHASE OF TOYS & GAMES

The University approved an amount of SR. 40,000 for purchase of ten to twelve sets of toys, games and merry-go-rounds from a reputed local dealer and they will be installed in about eight different locations in the Faculty residential area as well as at the Recreation Center and at KFUPM Beach. This is a very important development to have taken place during the current academic year.

7. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The Committee successfully organized an Arts Exhibition, which was held at the Recreation Center from April 2 to 7, 2003.

The Committee also addressed several important issues including walkway for children from Farooq Mosque to Rawdhah Courts, refurbishing the paved footpath between the Farooq Mosque and the Playground in order to enable the pedestrians to use the footpath without any difficulty, need for the Housing & Office Services Department to supervise the janitors working in the Campus Housing area in order to ensure that these laborers really do their assigned work during their working hours and clean the areas

assigned to them properly, the need for the Transportation Department to arrange to operate shuttle bus services, on an hourly basis, from the Faculty Residential Area to the Recreation Center, after 4.00 p.m. to enable the community to visit the Recreation Center without any difficulty. Also, suitable warning letters should be issued to the bus drivers who drive the buses recklessly while taking families on shopping trips to Dammam and Al-Khobar.

Based on a number of complaints received from the Campus residents, the Committee discussed and subsequently recommended posting of additional security staff in the T-junction from the Academic Circle Road and the road leading to the Faculty residential area, especially near the Coop Store and Meshwar Restaurant to control speeding vehicles in order to prevent any accidents taking place. In addition, the Committee recommended fixing radar in this area to catching speeding vehicles and impose penalty on the erring drivers.

The Committee also noticed that the students by driving their cars very fast create frequent accidents on campus. To prevent such accidents taking place on a regular basis, the Committee discussed and subsequently recommended that the Traffic Safety Committee should study the subject of preventing students from using their cars to come to the academic buildings to overcome traffic-related problems and accidents. In addition, the Traffic Safety Committee should ensure that the parking lots meant for parking cars by faculty and staff day time work and not by KFUPM vehicles.

The Committee discussed in one of its meetings the need to develop some vacant lands on Campus to be used as playground for children and youth. Towards this direction, the Committee recommended an allocation of SR. 10,000 to be used for designing; drawing and landscape work of the vacant area between Nakheel and Farooq Courts and that adjacent to the Farooq Mosque to be used as multipurpose playgrounds. The Committee also recommended that this task should be handled by the Environmental Design Center in the College of Environmental Design.

The Committee handled several other major issues during its meetings including the need to keep open the North Gate of the University for 24 hours a day, addition of entertaining, educating and thought-provoking channels such as National Geographic, History, Space Toon, Animal Planet Channels should be added to the Community TV Program which can be accommodated by reducing the sport channels to three or four.

Also, the Committee invited a private contractor to the meeting to discuss with him the possibility of improving the KFUPM beach facilities and also to participate in the development of children's park and multiple playground facility on Campus. Similarly, the Committee recommended that the Traffic Safety Committee should study and subsequently arrange to provide zebra crossings at various points on Campus. Also, the roundabouts near the KFUPM Schools should be modified for smooth flow of traffic.

The Committee discussed and positively recommended for quick action by the Dean of Faculty & Personnel Affairs (1) to make arrangement with the KFUPM Branch of Riyadh Bank to provide the University every month with coupons to the value of SR. 50,000 in various denominations through the Financial Affairs department to be used in the Passport Department so that these coupons are sold the employees to pay for exit-re-entry visas, Iqama renewals, visa charges and other expenses, with the possibility of

deducting the fees directly from their salaries. The Passport Department representatives will then be free to go to the Saudi Government Passport offices directly and not miss the long quos instead of going to the bank to collect the coupons; and (2) the Dean of Faculty & Personnel Affairs should develop an on-line system to handle requests received from employees to get 50% cash in lieu of their annual repatriation tickets. Similarly, final clearance request for employees leaving the University should be made online so that they are spared of visiting various departments and facilities to obtain clearances prior to their dues are settled by the University.

The Committee also discussed and recommended developing the vacant area lying between the Coop Store and the green house area, as a Recreation Center for use by male youth and adults. If approved, quotations would be invited from reputed private contractors to develop the area.

The Committee examined the possibility of allowing advertisements to be inserted by private companies and agencies on the University stationery including telephone bills, salary slips, KFUPM News magazine, paper cups, etc., so that the revenue generated from the advertisements could be used for community related services and activities.

On the basis of its earlier discussion, the Committee recommended that Messrs. Resorts and Touristic Estate Co. Ltd., be provided with the maps relating to KFUPM beach and the Campus map relating to the two designated areas meant for developing children's park and multipurpose play ground. The contractor is expected to submit a detailed quotation on the assigned tasks within six weeks from the receipt of the maps by him.

The Committee in several meetings discussed the need to remove the special security personnel operating on Campus which cause considerable delay for parents, students, children in reaching the Campus in a timely manner and also to depart from the Campus. After discussing the subject in several meetings, the Committee recommended that the Director General of Safety & Security contact the Police Department to convince them to withdraw the police personnel in the check point near the American Consulate as there is no war threat and the general public is put to maximum inconvenience by the check point and also by the closure of the U-turn facility near the American Consulate entrance.

The Committee received from the Director General of KFUPM Medical Center, details relating to the proposed modifications in order to provide a separate entrance to the Emergency Room (ER) for female patients and also increase the waiting area space in the Dental Clinic. It may be recalled that as per the recommendation of the Committee in its meeting #7 held on November 26, 2002, a sub-committee consisting of Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Zahrani, Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Shehri, Mr. Hassan Al-Nazhah and Dr. Javed Iqbal was formed to study the blueprint of the Medical Center. The suggested modifications were circulated among the members of the Committee and they are in agreement with the proposed modifications to provide separate entrance to the Emergency Room for female patients, increased waiting space for males and females' dental patients, etc. Subsequently, the Committee recommended approval of the proposed modifications suggested by the Sub-Committee, as illustrated in the attached drawings, to provide separate emergency room for female patients, more waiting area for male and female dental patients, etc. The Committee also recommends forwarding these drawings to the General Supervisor for Central Services for implementation.

As a result of its continuous follow-up action, the Committee could get the North Gate of the University to be kept open from 11.00 p.m. until 7.00 a.m., with the condition that only those vehicles having KFUPM stickers would be allowed to enter through this date during this period.

7.1 Web page for Community Affairs Committee

The Community Affairs Committee has its own web page and the address is:

www.kfupm.edu.sa/ccac/ccac.html

The Committee will download all the important items in the web page as soon as possible.

7.2 KFUPM Medical Center Questionnaire Survey Results

On the basis of the questionnaire survey undertaken by the Community Affairs Committee during the last academic year, to elicit information from the Campus residents and select number of students, the completed questionnaires were analyzed and subsequently conclusions were drawn. The subject was discussed in the meeting of the Committee and subsequently, the following recommendations have been made for the improved functioning of the Medical Center:

1. The Medical Center should explore the possibility of having two shifts in the Medical Center, i.e. from 7.30 a.m. until 12 noon and from 4.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. in order to serve the Community in the most appropriate manner.
2. The Medical Center should create its own web page by incorporating information on the doctors, nurses and other staff working in the Medical Center. This will be very useful for the Community in various ways.
3. The Medical Center should introduce the system of electronic file movement of the patients' record instead of manually handling the medical record files by the patients. This would go a long way in maintaining the medical record of all the patients effectively, efficiently and for easier retrieval of the medical record by the KFUPM Medical Center personnel.
4. The Medical Center should hire as soon as possible additional manpower in the Gynecology Section, Dermatology section by recruiting a male Dermatologist, well qualified and experienced Ophthalmologists, ENT Specialists and Dentists.
5. The Medical Center should be provided with at least five sets of English and Arabic Newspapers and magazines to be kept in the male waiting areas, female waiting areas at all the clinics. Similarly, the Television facility should be restored so that the patients waiting in the Medical Center do not get bored due to their inactivity while waiting for their turn to see the Doctor.
6. The annual evaluation of each member of the KFUPM Medical Center (such

as doctors, nurses, paramedics, lab technicians, etc.) should be done similar to what is being done in the University Main Campus (evaluation of faculty by students). This would enable the Community to give their opinion on the performance of the respective medical staff and based on this, the Medical Director can take appropriate action including providing qualitative advices to the medical staff, sending them for periodical training programs and seminars in order to enable them to update their knowledge in their respective areas of specialization, provide suitable salary raise to those who really work very hard to serve the Community and dismiss those erring staff who do not perform their duty properly and efficiently.

7. The Committee recommends improvement in the following areas of the KFUPM Medical Center:
 - (a) Dental Section: A major look at the dental section should be taken to improve the service of the center for the KFUPM residents and Students.
 - (b) General Medicine: The number of doctors in the general medicine should be increased so that the procedures they adopt in the treatment improve.
 - (c) Waiting Areas: All the waiting areas should be made more attractive by providing up to date newspapers, magazines in different languages.
 - (d) General Recommendation: The clinic should adopt some ways to encourage good behavior of all doctors with the patients.
 - (e) Behavior of Non-medical staff should be instructed to behave well with both faculty and students.

The Committee also discussed the complaints from faculty and staff as well as some University officials speaking on behalf of students that the securities check point personnel behavior and procedure is getting worse by the day. Students are issued violations on several subjects and they are facing large fines so far. Faculty are complaining that they are harassed by these personnel even when they have their families with them, especially during the hot hours of the day and peak times of the day. These personnel are very slow in the process and are doing it unnecessarily. There could be a better solution if they could switch the check point to the entrance of the Consulate where they can inspect vehicles going into the consulate compound. Currently, as the monetary value of the cost of the delay to faculty, students and staff to enter the university and resume their duties, is awaited from personnel and accounts department, we are anticipating a huge loss to the university accounting wise. However, the more serious issue is the academic performance disturbance, where all our students, both University and KFUPM schools are missing their first class as well as their teachers. Throughout its history, KFUPM have had a consistent record of high educational standards of full 17 week full time semesters, however these check points are eroding this record considerably. The community Affairs Committee as well as the Security Department estimates of the delay are, 45 minutes to 75 minutes in the early morning every day, about 35- 45 minutes at noon, and sometimes about 60-70 minutes around 2:00- 2:30 pm (school buses are returning home), where yesterday kids left the buses and went home on foot in the middle of the burning sun. Even school-going girls and ladies did the same. We are worried about the exams which will star this week end. These situations are intolerable and H.E the Rector is kindly requested to report them to the Governor or even the Minister of Interior for their intervention and kind assistance,

as the standards of this University are being shaken dramatically, and its way of life is being transformed into a nightmare.

Dr. Aldosary recently enquired with the Director of Accounts department about the fines charged to the students on account of traffic violation such as over-speeding, wrong parking, etc. According to the information provided by the Director of Accounts department, on an average, a maximum of SR. 97,000 and a minimum of SR. 33,000 were collected from the students for traffic violation. Dr. Aldosary felt that there are many poor students who depend on the monthly salary from the University for their living expenses and, therefore, it is for consideration that the first traffic violation committed by students should be exempted from any monetary penalty. From the second traffic violation onwards, penalty could be imposed on them. In addition, the first penalty should be canceled after the expiry of three months from the date of such a traffic violation. He added that it is understandable if the faculty members are charged for traffic violation from the beginning without any excuse because they are mature and they are supposed to play as role models for others to emulate them. By observing the driving habits of the faculty members, students would learn a lot and strictly observe the traffic rules and regulations. Dr. Aldosary suggested that part of the fines collected by the Security Department from students and faculty members for traffic violation should be transferred to the development of community services and facilities. This could be done by allocating, on an average, SR. 10,000 to the Community Affairs Committee every month for community related activities. This suggestion was unanimously welcomed by the members. On the basis of the detailed discussion, the Committee in its meeting #29 made the following recommendations:

1. Since many poor students depend on the monthly salary from the University for their living expenses the first traffic violation committed by students should be recorded but exempted from any monetary penalty. From the second traffic violation onwards, penalty could be imposed on them. In addition, the first penalty should be canceled after the expiry of three months from the date of such a traffic violation.
2. Part of the money collected for traffic violation by students and faculty members be allocated to the Community Affairs Committee in order to provide more and better amenities to the Community.

The Committee also recommended that some of the fines collected through traffic violations should be utilized to install air conditioners in those buses which do not have this facility and also buy new buses for use by students and KFUPM families for their transportation and shopping trip, etc.

Appendix-A

Status Report on Approved Recommendations

A summary of the recommendations made by the Committee in its meetings and the specific actions taken on the approved recommendations is given in Appendix-A. These are based on the community feedback, which was initially reviewed in the Committee meetings after exclusive discussions and were put forward to H.E. the Rector through relevant minutes. H.E. the Rector's comments on each minutes were accordingly forwarded to department/authorities concerned for due actions.

Appendix-B

Copies of Approved Minutes of the Committee