



### STREET WISE

Survival skills are an important aspect of life in our society today. Just like you need to formulate knowledge and skills about how to travel in the outback so do we need to develop knowledge and skills to use when travelling to and from home, to work or campus or going out for the night in Sydney.

Being street wise and alert to your surroundings when travelling is important. You need to be able to adjust your plans, change course and know how to navigate these changes.

Getting about today we find that many students have access to a variety of attractive portable electronic equipment and gadgets. Many of these items are worth a lot of money and being portable difficult to trace. Items such as palm devices, laptops, MP3 players, ipods, USBs, expensive mobile telephones.

Many students can increase the risk of being a potential victim of a crime, simply by advertising the valuable portable items that they carry when traveling.

Security Officers regularly observe students wearing a backpack, carrying a laptop computer bag and a variety of attractive valuable items.

In addition we often see students walking along with MP3 player earpieces in their ears, unable to hear or monitor what is taking place behind them.

Stop for a moment and think about how you can reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime while walking down a street or waiting or approaching a train station. How can I make sure that I won't stand out in the crowd?

You might think you should be able to get about without having to worry about these things, but none the less a few simple steps can reduce opportunities for thieves and keep yourself out of a nasty situation.

So consider the following points:

- ◇ Pack away items you don't need to advertise by carrying out in the open.
- ◇ Turn down the volume on your player or don't have both earpieces in. Leave one ear able to hear what is going on around you
- ◇ Look around every now and then to see who is around.
- ◇ Walk confidently.

- ◇ Cross the road if you see someone ahead who makes you feel uncomfortable.
- ◇ Have your mobile phone easily accessible to call for help.
- ◇ If there is a bus service that you might be able to use instead of walking alone in the dark, use it.

### WALKING ALONE

In September there have been a number of incidents of assault and robbery related incidents occurring within the local street network surrounding the campus

UOW Security Officers and NSW Police Officers have been conducting plainclothes patrols and uniformed patrols of the area in the evenings Monday through Friday and on weekends.

Students and staff may have seen an increased presence of UOW Security Officers patrolling the area on bikes and in vehicles.

Police on the 11 September arrested four offenders aged 15-17 years of age shortly after they had assaulted a student walking home near Gipps Road. These offenders have been charged with rob-

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Street Wise
- ◆ Monthly Statistics
- ◆ USB Memory Sticks

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bery and assault offences. Police are continuing their inquiries.

Several SOLS messages were forwarded to students and email messages to various staff groups across campus to highlight these incidents and the need for staff and students to be aware of these events.

These matters highlight the need for members of the campus community to remain vigilant about personal safety at all times, not just at night but during the day. For tips on personal safety go to:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/about/security/personal-safety.html>

If you see something unusual or suspicious, please call University Security on 4221 4555 or extension 4555 or dial 3 from any Security telephone.

If you see a crime occurring **now** call the Campus Emergency telephone number on 4221 4900 or extension 4900 or dial #1 from any Security telephone.

You can also report crime to the Police Assistance line on 131 444 or to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

It is very important that students report every incident that they experience to ensure that Police are aware of issues that are affecting the community's personal safety.

**STEALING**

A laptop computer was stolen from an office in Building 41 when the office was left unlocked and unattended for 15 minutes.

2006				
INCIDENTS	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Stealing	4	2	2	5
Break-ins	2	1	3	-
Stolen Cars	-	-	1	-
Stealing from Cars	1	-	-	1
Stolen Bicycles	-	-	-	1
Malicious Damage	4	1	5	3
Suspicious Persons	1	2	15	13
Assault	-	-	4	1
Robbery related	-	-	6	-



Shortly afterwards in another office a an ipod and building access keys was stolen from a student's bag. The building entry doors required re-keying and numerous persons with access have had the inconvenience of keys having to be changed.

It is imperative where staff or students with access privileges lose a key or an access card that it is reported without delay.

Please keep access cards and keys secure at all times.

Keep a lookout for people who may be canvassing your workplace, looking for opportunities and looking for equipment that will satisfy their shopping list.

Report immediately to Security any behaviour or actions that raise your suspicions.

**USB MEMORY STICKS**

USB memory sticks are the latest property item to take out the sweepstakes as the item most lost on campus. Students really do need to take care of their USB memory sticks. This was raised in our last Campus Watch.

Over the last twelve months memory sticks have become the most commonly lost item across campus.

When you buy a USB memory stick, please take the time to record your name and student number on the stick. Sticks are recorded as 'found property items' at the Security Control Room.



If you have lost your stick make sure you know where and approximately the time and date.

We cannot stress enough to students the importance of marking your property for identification purposes.

When you use your memory stick on campus, remember to remove it and take it with you. Hanging it around your neck on a lanyard is a good way of remembering it.

### TRANSPORT—SHUTTLE BUS AND SAFETY ESCORTS

The Shuttle Service between Campus and North Wollongong Railway Station is an important service for students to use. The cost of this service is 60 cents.

The service is provided for and subsidised by the University. Refer to the following site to check out the timetables.

<http://www.uow.edu.au/about/transport/shuttlebus.html>

Security Officers will only provide an escort to students to North Wollongong Railway Station after the last service has run at 10.05pm.

After dark, students returning to their vehicles walking in the Gwynneville area, can ask for a Safety escort. The Escort service is restricted to as far as Gipps Road only.



For more information contact Security on ext 4555 or telephone 4221 4555.

### FRAUDULENT USE OF CREDIT CARDS

Detective Sergeant Brad Ainsworth from Wollongong Police has asked that we let students know who are living in the

North Wollongong / Gwynneville areas that there has been some instances of mail being .

The mail stolen includes new or replacement credit cards from your bank. The credit cards stolen are then used sometimes in conjunction with other mail to help prove identity and then make unapproved purchases.

Students living in private accommodation in the North Wollongong/Gwynneville area should regularly check their mailboxes.

Some points for consideration include:

- ◇ Use a padlock and key on your mailbox to prevent access.
- ◇ Check your mail every-day. If expected mail has not arrived, check with the company you are expecting mail from to see when it should have arrived. If there are any discrepancies let your bank know as soon as possible.
- ◇ Have your mail delivered to a locked Post Office box.
- ◇ Ask your bank to have new or replacement cards held at the branch for you to personally attend and collect.

### CCTV SURVEILLANCE

For the safety of the campus community and the protection of assets and property, some areas of campus are under constant camera surveillance.

Cameras are not monitored on a continuous basis. All cameras, however, are supported by recordings that are kept for a limited time for incident investigations.

All cameras are operated in an open surveillance manner and in recognition of the Workplace Video Surveillance Act.

### REMINDER

*Mark your USB with a permanent marking pen, or engrave it. Have a name tag with it so that it can be easily identified. Mark the tag with your name, driver's licence or student number so we can easily identify you.*