

Senate Question Period
November 27, 2012

Submitted by Senator Fachinger

1. Question regarding the inappropriate use of emergency phones on campus.

What does the University intend to do to discourage students from participating in the "blue light challenge," which violates the spirit of the Queen's community and might put people at risk?

Background: (provided by *Anne-Marie Grondin*, Executive Assistant, Society of Graduate & Professional Students (SGPS))

There are currently 176 indoor and outdoor phones. Approximately 75 of these are placed outside, and are equipped with blue lights. Only a few lights are CCTV-operational: those in Tindall and ARC parking lots. Thus, campus response relies heavily on audio communication. All calls from emergency phones receive the highest priority response. If no voice is heard, Security staff responds immediately. If no one is sighted upon arrival, Security Supervisors and other nearby Campus Security staff are immediately dispatched to search the vicinity. Over the last 4 years, malicious activations have increased dramatically.

Why the surge in blue lights activations? It coincides with the popularity of a game involving Queen's jacket bars. One such bar, titled the "Blue Light," involves activating a blue light, shot-gunning a Blue Light beer, and taping the can to the phone pole before campus security arrives.