BACKGROUND:

On July 15, Dean Stephanapolous received a note that read:

Dear Dean Stephanapolous:

I feel obligated but very uncomfortable sending you this note. I doubt there is anything you can do, but if I remain silent and something happens...

There is a student named Bill who lives in the White House. I have heard people say he brags of owning a gun but have always disregarded this as hearsay.

However, at the White House last Saturday in the midst of an argument/pushing match, many people at the party saw him go up to his room and return with what everyone felt was a concealed weapon (you could see it in his back pants/shirt area). I feel it is my obligation to tell you this—I don’t know him or his motives—but am extremely uncomfortable that he felt it necessary to “get his gun” in such circumstances. Such an action can only lead to bad ends. This time nothing happened, but I am worried about next time.

-A concerned student

The next day, an emergency Honor Council meeting was called to determine whether or not to authorize a search and seizure of Bill’s room because guns are a direct violation of the College Firearms Policy found in the Student’s Guide. Fourteen of the 16 members of Council were present at this meeting. According to college policy, no college official may search a students’ room without authorization from Honor Council or Students’ Council. Honor Council was extremely uncomfortable violating Bill’s personal space because of an anonymous letter. However, the Dean of the College brought to Council’s attention that similar allegations were raised against Bill in an incident 2 years prior. Before making a decision, Council weighed the pros and cons of the search in regards to personal freedom vs. the safety of the community. After six hours of discussion spread over a period of two days, Honor Council reached consensus on the authorization of a search of Bill’s room. Some discussion ensued about whether or not an honor council member should attend the search, but Council decided that it was best for the search to be completed solely by the Dean’s and the security officers (Secret Service) of the college.

On July 21, the Director of the Secret Service (Tipper), accompanied by one of her agents and Dean Reno, performed a search of Bill’s room. Due to the severity of the case, and to insure the maximum safety of the servicemen, the search was to be performed while Bill was in class. When Tipper, the other officer, and Dean Reno arrived, Bill and a friend were asleep in the room. When informed of the purpose of the search, Bill immediately gave Tipper a pellet gun that was hanging on the coat rack. Tipper proceeded to search the rest of the room, and in doing so she discovered 15 blank Haverford ID cards and validation stickers. At the time of the search, Bill told Officer Tipper that the pellet gun was not functional.

Honor Council reconvened and reached consensus on a suspicion of violation, and a Joint Honor Council-Dean’s Panel was convened as soon as possible. The purpose of the Panel was to investigate the “allegations that Bill had a weapon on campus and that its presence was experienced by others at a party at the White House as threatening and intimidating.” Because of a potential bias, the Honor Council chair did not serve as a co-chair of the panel. Instead, she acted as a resource for another Council member who served as co-chair of the proceedings. The other co-chair was one of the deans, and three additional Honor Council members and one additional dean served as well. Joint Honor Council-Dean’s Panels are used in situations involving administrative or legal concerns such as violence or threat of violence.
Because the case involved a perceived threat to the safety of the community, Bill was temporarily suspended from Haverford by the Dean of the College. On Page 69 of the Students’ Guide, under the section entitled “Clarification of Judicial Procedures,” college policy states that, “In a case of violence or threat of violence, where there is a concern for the safety of the community, the Dean of the College may separate a student immediately.” Bill’s suspension was to last until an investigative procedure was completed. However, approximately two weeks after the suspension began, the Dean modified it. She felt that although the panel had not concluded its inquiry, there was enough assurance from the investigation completed by that point that there was no danger to the community. After that point, Bill was allowed to be on campus for academic purposes and to eat in the Dining Center. He was not, however, allowed to live in College Housing nor participate in campus social events.

A Cast of Important Characters:

- Bill: accused of weapon possession and using it in an threatening manner
- Tipper: Director of Secret Service
- Al: Bill’s Roommate
- Newt: student at the party involved in the “argument/pushing match”
- Chelsea and Socks: residents of the White House also involved in the pushing match
- Ronald: involved in a previous incident in which Bill was accused of threatening someone with a gun
- George: a student at the party who potentially witnessed the weapon
- Members of Congress: friends of Newt; attempted to break up pushing match
- Supreme Court Justices: attended the party
- Jackie: resident of White House
- Hilary: attended the party
- Nancy, Barbara, Pat, Marilyn, Dan, Richard, Gerald, and Rosalyn: residents of White House

THE PROCEEDINGS:

The panel felt it would be best to meet with Bill to ask him about the gun and the evening described in the note. Additional witnesses were determined during the course of the investigation. Some witnesses submitted written statements, but were later asked to appear before the panel. The panel received written statements from: Barbara, Chelsea, Marilyn, Socks, Rosalyn, and Dan. The information provided in these statements is summarized in the presentation of the questioning of the witnesses. Before beginning the panel decided that if they could determine the author of the note, they would have probably have a better understanding of what happened on the night of the party. In addition, the panel determined that in order to figure out the author of the anonymous note, it would be better to meet with the witnesses without Bill present—an option given to the panel in the procedural guidelines. As dictated for when this option is used, the panel gave Bill oral summaries of the witnesses’ statements.

Bill:

After a moment of silence, Bill began telling what happened during the night of the party. He said that he was working the keg in the White House when a friend—Barbara—came to him and told him about the scuffle on the dance floor. When Bill walked to the dance floor, he saw Newt lunging at Chelsea (another resident of the White House). While Newt’s friends attempted to hold Newt back, Bill tried to break up the fight and asked them to leave the house. At this point, Bill left the room and went to call the secret service. He then returned to the dance floor and took Chelsea and Socks (who was also involved in the scuffle) upstairs to calm them down. Bill then proceeded downstairs to wait for the Secret Service to arrive. After talking to Secret Service, Bill went to Nancy and Marilyn’s room where Chelsea and Socks were waiting. Bill then returned to the keg. He noted that during this entire episode, he never returned to his room to “get a gun.” In addition, his roommate Al was in the room the entire time.

Bill then spoke to the panel about the anonymous note. He did not want to accuse anyone of writing it, but he felt that Newt was most likely the author. They had taken a class together the
previous semester, and Newt probably wanted to get revenge for being thrown out of the White House following the pushing match.

After being asked about his mental awareness during the night-in-question, Bill responded that he had not been drinking nor using drugs that night. In fact, he never drinks whenever parties are thrown at the White House.

The panel then wanted to obtain information about the gun and Bill's possession thereof. He said that he has had it since middle school, and it had been broken since about 10th grade. He has kept it for somewhat sentimental reasons, in addition to possibly using it as a prop for plays or for Halloween costumes. However, he stressed that he has never carried a concealed weapon.

Bill was also questioned about the prior incident in which he was accused of having a weapon on campus. He said that when the incident arose, he was locked out of his apartment and was climbing through a window. Two upper-classmen (Ronald and a friend) approached him and questioned why he was entering an apartment through the window. This confrontation led to a shouting match in which the Secret Service was called. However, Bill could not remember many details of the incident. According to the report filed by secret service:

"Bill allegedly put his hand in Ronald's face. He removed his hand and put it by his waist. Words then exchanged, and Bill allegedly stated, 'How about if I put a shot between your eyes?' Ronald stated that 'no one has a gun at Haverford.' Bill replied 'How do you know there are no guns at Haverford?' Ronald thought he saw a weapon in Bill's back part of his pants. Ronald's friend stated that he allegedly saw a silver item with a wooden handle"

Secret Service then asked if he had a weapon on him or in his apartment, and he responded that he did not. Bill told the panel that the gun was a black metal BB pellet gun. It is rusty and scratched with much of the paint chipped off. Bill felt that the opinions of Ronald and Ronald's friend were incorrect because the pellet gun was clearly not silver with a wooden handle. Bill also stated that he reiterated the fact that he has never carried the pellet gun, nor any other concealed weapon, during his time at Haverford.

The Panel then asked Bill about an incident that Bill had told one of the dean's. In high school, one of his friends was being harassed by her ex-boyfriend. When Bill and his friend were driving, they were followed by her ex-boyfriend's parents. Bill accidentally drove into a dead-end, and his friend pointed a realistic looking water gun at the other car. When the police questioned him, he and his friends switched stories because he was a minor. Bill was arrested for assault and received 6 months probation. The only reason the panel questioned Bill about this was because Bill had told a dean that he had once been arrested for assault. The panel determined that this story was irrelevant to the facts of the evening and Bill's actions at Haverford. With a moment of silence, the panel adjourned until the following day.

After reconvening, the panel decided to continue asking Bill clarifying questions. Bill reiterated that he had the pellet-gun on campus because all of his possessions are in his room in the White House. In addition, Bill felt that because the gun was inoperable, it was incapable of causing harm, and thus not in violation of the firearms policy—especially since he does not own any ammunition. However, Bill agreed that it would be able to cause emotional harm to someone who saw it.

After further questioning of the previous incident with Ronald, Bill stated that he told Secret Service that he didn't have a weapon because he honestly felt that the broken gun is not a weapon. At this point, Bill questioned the panel's intent in questioning the prior incident. The panel felt that the prior incident potentially established a pattern of behavior inconsistent with Haverford's values. However, Bill felt that the panel's responsibility solely lay in the current issue surrounding the gun. He did not think that any past incidents were relevant and thus should not be taken into consideration by the panel.

Finally, questioning turned to the Haverford ID cards found in Bill's room. He claimed that he discovered them sitting on the steps of Founder's in June. He brought them back to his room with the intent to make fake IDs. However, he never had the opportunity to use them. He stated that it was probably a stupid idea not to return the ID cards.
Al: (Bill’s roommate)

Al said that he knew about the broken pellet gun since Al and Bill’s first year at Haverford. He also stated that he has never seen Bill take the gun out of the room, nor as Bill ever threatened anyone with it. During the night of the party, Al was in their room with a friend. At one point during the party, according to Al, Bill returned to the room for a brief moment. The panel was struck by this statement because it was inconsistent; Bill had clearly told the panel that he did not return to his room throughout the course of the evening. Their feelings were discussed, and after a later conversation with Bill, the panel felt that it was simply a misunderstanding of what occurred that evening. Al also stated that Bill was in his view throughout his short visit to their room, and at no point could he have taken the gun. Al also felt that Bill would never get the gun in this situation because “that would be a stupid thing to do.” According to Al, everyone in the White House knew that Bill owns the gun.

When Al was downstairs during the party, he was approached by George—another Haverford student—who asked him if Bill had a gun. Al dismissed George’s comment as being ridiculous, but wondered whether or not George could be the author of the note. In regards to the ID cards, Al said that he knew about them, but had never dealt with them. He said that Bill brought them home one afternoon, claiming to have found them on the steps of Founders.

Tipper: (director of Secret Service)

The panel felt it was appropriate to talk with Tipper in order to ascertain the power of the gun, and to see whether or not she could provide any information not detailed in any of the Secret Service reports (either the incident with Ronald; the altercation between Newt, Chelsea, and Socks; or the search of Bill’s room).

After describing the search of Bill’s room, Tipper responded to a questions about the capabilities of the gun. She said that the gun—if functional—could definitely pierce the skin and, if shot from close range, could potentially cause a fatality. She said that a weapon of this sort—working or broken—has no place on this campus. In addition, Tipper felt that if these incidents had occurred on another campus, it would definitely constitute a major violation of some sort. Tipper was unable to elaborate on the information provided in the Secret Service reports regarding either incident. However, she did state that Secret Service records all incoming emergency calls, and she offered the panel the tape of the evening of the party—for the panel to double check to see who called Secret Service. After listening to the tape, Tipper informed the panel that it was too muddled to be of any use.

Tipper also showed the gun to the panel, explained how it worked, and also explained why it was broken. She stated that the only problem with the gun was that the loading mechanism was jammed. Thus, if the gun was loaded, it would work properly. However, Tipper stated that there was no way to load the gun. She was not sure whether or not this was an easily fixed problem.

Newt: (student at the party involved in the “argument/pushing match”)

After introductions, Newt was asked to present his recollections of the evening in question. He claimed that he did not remember seeing Bill on the dance floor trying to break up the scuffle. The next morning, Newt heard the rumor that Bill had gone upstairs to get a gun. He didn’t remember from whom he heard these rumors, but he gave the panel the names of his friends that were at the party (the members of congress). He said one of them probably told him about the gun. According to the rumor, Bill left the dance floor, went to his room, and returned with his gun.

Although Newt acknowledged he had been drinking that evening, he says he definitely would remember interacting with Bill. However, he had no memories of seeing Bill during the pushing match or shortly thereafter.

George: (student at the party who potentially witnessed the weapon)

The panel felt it necessary to speak with George—the student who asked Al whether or not Bill owned a gun. George stated that he saw the end of the incident on the dance floor and possibly saw a gun in Bill’s pants. He noted that Bill was in the middle of the pushing match, trying to calm people down. George was standing on the stairs in the White House speaking with some of the Supreme Court Justices. When Bill passed them, George said that he might have seen a gun. However, he was not completely sure of this. George added that—until the party—he had never
heard any rumors of Bill owning a gun. In addition, he felt that through his limited contact with Bill, he did not think that Bill was the type of person who would ever use a gun.

Although George could not say with certainty that he saw a weapon, he decided to ask Al about it later that night. He also spoke to some of the Supreme Court Justices and Jackie about whether or not they had seen anything. When asked about the anonymous note, George felt that Jackie may have written it. He said that Jackie lives in the White House and was concerned when she heard the rumors.

After listening to George’s statement, the panel deemed it appropriate to talk to the Justices and Jackie to inquire about whether or not they witnessed a weapon at the party, and if they knew who wrote the anonymous note.

Supreme Court Justices: (students who attended the party)

Each of the Justices was separately questioned by the panel, yet all gave similar accounts of what took place that evening. The Justices were standing with George on the main staircase in the White House during the party. They all witnessed the pushing match on the dance floor, and shortly thereafter saw Bill go up and down the stairs. None of the justices was able to say whether or not he saw a weapon in Bill’s possession. However, later that evening and the next day George spoke with the justices individually to find out whether or not each had seen anything. This was the first time any of the justices heard a rumor about the possession of a weapon.

Jackie: (resident of the White House)

During the party, Jackie did not see a weapon nor anything that could have been misconstrued as one. The next day, one of the Justices asked her about the weapon, and she thought that it was simply ridiculous. Jackie lives in the White House and had never heard anything about Bill owning a gun. However, after George asked her about it, Jackie decided to talk to Nancy—another resident of the White House—to find out about it. Nancy told Jackie that Bill owned a gun, but it was never loaded. This surprised Jackie because she felt that Bill wasn’t the type of person that would possess a gun. She also didn’t see any need for a gun to be present on Haverford’s campus.

Ronald: (involved in a previous incident in which Bill was accused of threatening someone with a gun)

The panel had scheduled some of the Members of Congress to speak with the panel the next day. However, before these discussions began, one of the panel members brought forth the results of his attempts to track down Ronald—the student who had previously accused Bill of weapons possession, and who had since graduated. He stated that he was walking back to his room when he saw Bill climbing in through a window. Ronald asked Bill if that was his room, and a conversation then began because Ronald and Bill were from the same hometown. Ronald felt that Bill was trying to pick a fight with him, at which point Ronald said, “you’re being stupid and un-Haverfordian.” Approximately 15 minutes later, Bill came to Ronald’s room with a friend. Ronald was standing with 8-10 of his friends at this point, and was surprised that Bill came over. Ronald stated that Bill had his hand behind his back as the discussion continued. Bill bumped into one of Ronald’s friends and into Ronald many times. Ronald felt that Bill was trying to get someone to “through the first punch.” Ronald then pushed Bill with one hand, to try and turn him so they would be face-to-face. At this point, Ronald’s friend thought he saw a weapon. In addition, Ronald stated that the conversation stated in the Secret Service report (alleging that Bill stated “how about if I put a shot between your eyes”) occurred as written in the report. The panel was concerned that Ronald remembered this event so clearly, yet Bill had claimed none of it happened.

Members of Congress: (friends of Newt; attempted to break up pushing match)

The panel then spoke with a few of the Members of Congress. Although most of them were present at the party, one was not—but he heard rumors surrounding the party the next day. The Congressmen are friends with Newt, and they attempted to break up the pushing match in which Newt was involved. During the fight, all of the Congressmen who were at the party saw Bill, but did not see a weapon. When they heard the rumors the following day, they were concerned that someone might have a gun on campus. However, they disregarded these rumors until they
connected them to the incident that Ronald was involved in. At this point, the Congressmen became more concerned, but felt that the rumors about Bill were probably not true. Each of them was asked if he or she knew who wrote the anonymous note, but none were able to shed any light on the identity of the author.

Hilary: (attended the party)

A few of the witnesses that came before the panel had mentioned Hilary’s name as someone who may have seen something. The panel was told that she was near the fight, and after hearing the rumors about Bill was quite concerned about the possible presence of a gun. The panel felt that it would be appropriate to ask Hilary to discuss the events and the rumors.

A few days after the party, Hilary was discussing the party with some friends who told her the rumor about Bill possessing a gun and using it in a threatening manner. She also stated that she later heard that Bill’s room had been searched and Bill had been suspended from the college. She felt that it was ridiculous for someone to feel the need to possess a gun on Haverford’s campus. In addition, she found it especially troubling that someone would get a gun in an incident such as the pushing match at the party. She first stated that although she was concerned, she did not know of anyone who was concerned enough to do anything about it. When asked if she knew who wrote the letter, Hilary responded that she wouldn’t feel comfortable saying who the person was. She knew that the person did not see a gun at the party, but this person felt very concerned about the rumors; this person had felt an obligation to speak up. However, Hilary did not feel comfortable telling the panel who the person was, because she knew that “it could have drastic effects on this person’s life.” Hilary made it clear to the panel, however, that the person wrote the note out of fear of rumors. This person did not see a gun at the party but later heard about the possibility that one existed on campus.

The panel then discussed what to do with the information that Hilary had provided. Everyone felt that, in all likelihood, the panel would be unable to determine with 100% certainty whether or not Bill had a gun that evening. This was largely due to the fact that—according to Hilary—the note was written out of hearsay instead of first-hand information; the author of the note had not seen a gun. At this point, the panel decided to meet with Bill again to ask some clarifying questions and to share with him the information that the panel gathered throughout its investigation.

Bill:

The panel was a little unclear about the chronology of events during the party, so Bill was asked to create a time-line.

- Bill is working at the keg at the White House party
- Barbara gets Bill and tells him about the incident on the dance floor
- Bill goes to dance floor and sees incident between Newt, Socks, and Chelsea
- Bill leaves White House through front door and calls Secret Service
- Bill returns to dance floor and brings Socks and Chelsea to Sock’s room. Bill remains there for approximately 30 seconds.
- Bill goes down the inside stairs and sees Secret Service. He then brings Secret Service outside.
- Bill goes up the outside stairs and brings Socks and Chelsea (along with Dan, Rosalyn, and Pat) outside to speak with the Secret Service.
- Bill goes around to back of house to speak to Members of Congress. At this point, he sees Newt leaving the White House, and he calls out to him.
- Bill goes back around to the outside stairs and went up the stairs with Dan.
- The two were upstairs for approximately 2 minutes before coming down the inside stairs.
- Bill goes to Nancy and Marilyn’s room for a few minutes before returning to the keg.
- TIME PASSES
- Al tells Bill about George’s question
- TIME PASSES
- Bill goes to his room for a few minutes to talk with Al.
Once Bill had outlined a chronology of events, the panel concluded that in order for Bill to have possessed the gun at the alleged time, he would have had to been carrying the gun before the incident. The first time Bill went upstairs, and was in the vicinity of his room and the gun, Secret Service had already been called. The panel felt that it was highly unlikely that Bill would have called Secret Service then gone upstairs to get a gun. This reasoning was very important in the panel’s final decisions.

The panel then questioned Bill about the previous incident (with Ronald). After obtaining Ronald’s story, the panel was uncomfortable with the discrepancies between Bill’s story and the one that Ronald told (also confirmed the Secret Service report). Bill stated that there is no reason he would have threatened to put a “shot between the eyes” to Ronald. He said that he truly does not recall the incident going as Ronald said it went. However, Bill did not conclusively state that he did not say what Ronald alleges that he said. Instead, Bill simply cannot see why he possibly would have said those things. In addition, Bill stated that the reason he told Secret Service that he did not have a weapon was because he didn’t consider a broken pellet gun to be a weapon.

Chelsea, Socks, Pat, Richard, Gerald, Nancy, Barbara, Pat, Marilyn, & Dan: (residents of the White House)

The panel was informed by some of the residents of the White House who had submitted written statements to the panel that they wanted to address the panel, and they were all given the opportunity to do so. In addition, three other witnesses (Pat, Richard, and Gerald) were permitted to appear before the panel. During the course of these discussions, each member of the White House stated that during the course of the evening they did not see Bill with a weapon. The panel also wondered if Bill could have been carrying anything that could have been misconstrued as a weapon. However, none of the witnesses stated that he was carrying anything that could have been taken as such. Some of the witnesses knew about the gun before the incident, and some only learned of it after the search of Bill’s room. However, nobody was bothered by its presence. Those witnesses who knew about the gun said that—to their knowledge—Bill never carried it on him, nor did he ever use it in a threatening manner. Finally, most of these witnesses stated that Bill was someone of exceptional character. They felt that he was a great person who has had to overcome a lot of difficulties in life. None of these witnesses felt that Bill was the type of person who would use a gun in a threatening manner. Each witness also agreed with Bill’s account of the events of the evening.

It should be noted that during the course of the investigation, the identity of the author of the anonymous note was revealed to the panel. However, this information was only volunteered with a promise of complete confidentiality. The panel met with this person and his or her testimony is included in the above presentation. An attempt was made to convince this person to come forward to Bill, but the person felt that the allegations surrounding weapon possession were too serious for his/her identity to be known. Hilary’s testimony regarding the fact that the note was only written out of second-hand information is entirely true, and the panel took this into strong consideration during deliberations.

PANEL DELIBERATIONS:

The panel quickly agreed that possession of a gun, pellet or otherwise, is a violation of the College’s firearms policy. The policy, as written and distributed on page 87 of the Students’ Guide states:

The possession, use, or distribution of fireworks, explosives, ammunition, firearms, and other weapons such as knives and swords is expressly prohibited by the College.

The College defines firearms as any projectile firing device, especially those which are capable of causing harm to persons or damage to property. This includes, but is not limited to conventional firearms (devices using gunpowder), all types of air rifles, BB, pellet, and dart guns, or any slingshot devices.
Some discussion ensued about whether or not Bill's gun was a projectile device (seeing that it was broken) and whether or not it could cause harm. Everyone on the panel felt that a gun of this sort could definitely cause emotional harm; it could easily be used to threaten someone who doesn't know that the gun was broken. Some discussion and debate occurred regarding whether or not a broken pellet gun could still be capable of causing physical harm. The panel was unable to agree on this, and therefore decided to leave a clarification of "harm" out of the statement of violation and resolutions. Discussion also took place regarding the charges that Bill had not only possessed the gun, but had used it at the White House in a threatening manner. Most panel members felt that it was unlikely that Bill carried the gun that evening. However, some members of the panel felt that they would simply never be able to determine whether or not he actually possessed the gun during the party. Additional conversations took place surrounding the concern that Bill had been demonstrating a pattern of behavior (including, but not limited to, the two alleged gun incidents) that was inconsistent with some of Haverford's values. After much discussion, the panel reached consensus on the following statement of violation:

The panel concluded that Bill violated the Haverford College firearms policy by possessing a pellet gun. It is the panel's understanding that the pellet gun has been in Bill's possession since he arrived at Haverford. While the panel acknowledges that the gun has been broken throughout the period that Bill has possessed it on campus, the panel believes that its mere presence in college housing is a threat to the safety of the community.

The panel also concludes that Bill violated college policy by failing to fulfill his obligation to return college property (student ID cards and validation stickers) in his possession.

The panel then turned towards arriving at tentative resolutions for Bill. Everyone on the panel felt that it was appropriate to take into consideration the suspension that Bill had been serving since the search occurred. Bill was not allowed on College grounds for two weeks, and had been serving a modified suspension since (nearly 2-1/2 more weeks). In addition, the panel felt that it would be appropriate for the resolutions to be largely educational in nature. Options ranged from a research project of some sort dealing with the dangers of guns on college campuses to a letter to the community. Finally, the panel felt that Bill had not violated the Honor Code, rather he had only violated college policy. The panel then reached a tentative consensus on the following statement.

After taking into consideration that Bill has been suspended from Haverford College for a period of approximately one month, the panel resolves that:

1) To restore the breach of trust with the Haverford Community, Bill must write a letter to the campus community. It must be submitted to the co-chairs of the panel by the beginning of the next semester.

2) A letter of apology must be written to Central Services regarding the continued possession of the ID cards and validation stickers. The letter must be submitted by the beginning of the next semester. Copies shall be forwarded by Bill to the co-chairs of this panel.

3) Bill is to have a meeting with the Dean of the College to discuss formally terminating his suspension from the College. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the implications of the violations and his return to the Haverford community. This meeting shall occur at the earliest possible time after the conclusion of the panel.
PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS:

After the resolutions were presented to Bill in writing, the Panel met with him to discuss the statement of violation and the resolutions. In regards to the resolutions, Bill felt that both the letter to Central Services and the meeting with the Dean of the College were fair. However, he felt that a letter to the community was completely unjust because—in his opinion—he had not violated the trust of the community. The panel then asked Bill to leave the room for a few minutes in order to further discuss the resolutions. During this period, members of the panel felt uncomfortable with the phrase, “To restore the breach of trust with the Haverford Community.” After some discussion, part one of the resolutions was changed to read:

1. Bill must write a letter to the campus community addressing the concern that the presence of a gun in college housing is a threat to the safety of the community. It must be submitted to the co-chairs of the panel by the beginning of the next semester.

After this statement was presented to Bill, he took the opportunity to express some of his discomfort with the panel procedures and his initial suspension from the college. At this point, the appeals process was explained to Bill. He was told to bring up any concerns surrounding the panel in his meeting with the Dean of the College. After a moment of silence, the panel concluded. Bill decided not to appeal the panel’s decision.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:
(Feel free to answer these questions and return them to an Honor Council member or bring them to the Council office on the 3rd floor of the campus center.)

1. Do you agree with the panel’s decisions? Why or why not?

2. Under what circumstances should the administration of the College perform a search and seizure of a student’s room? Should Honor Council’s permission be required for such a search?

3. In what scenarios should the Dean of the College temporarily suspend students from the College?

4. Should Honor Council be involved with cases that deal with violence or threat of violence? If not, who should have jurisdiction over such cases?

Honor Council offers you the opportunity to speak with a member of this Panel. If you would like to do so, please contact the Honor Council chair at 642-CODE. If you have questions or comments about this or any other Honor Council abstract, please contact your Honor Council representative.