By Vincent Civitillo
Managing Editor

In the wake of the on-campus shooting the morning of Friday, Oct. 17, the University is in the process of taking measures to ensure the safety of the Rider community, said Director of Residence Life Cindy Threatt.

Policies for on-campus social events, as well as housing, are being re-examined with the first reactionary changes being made to the existing residence hall guest policy, she said.

“We drafted a draft of a policy to give people something to react to,” Threatt said. “There’s nothing final about it; it was just something we threw together in about five minutes to share with the Residence Directors and Resident Advisors (RAs) to see what kinds of feedback we would get.”

According to Threatt, one of the ideas being evaluated by Residence Life is a mandatory guest registration rule where residents would have to sign in each of their guests every time they bring one on campus.

“President [Mordechai] Rozanski asked [Assistant Dean of Campus Life] Cassie Iacovelli and us to look at the existing social events policy and guest policy, respectively, to see if it’s consistent with what other schools are doing in terms of monitoring who’s coming in and out,” she said. “We’ve noticed that on many campuses, people are required to sign their guests in with someone on duty either on defined hours or just 24 hours a day and have them leave their ID or driver’s license until they leave.”

The second possibility would be the creation of a guest pass system where students would be required to register their guests in with someone on duty or on defined hours or just 24 hours a day and have them leave their ID or driver’s license until they leave.

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“It raises interesting questions like if we’re going to do that, should we have a security station at the main entrance as well? If so, these could even be the places people could go to sign in their guests and get passes,” she said.

Although some may argue that the new policies will put unwanted restrictions on student life on campus, Director of Rider Safety & Security Vickie Weaver said that policy change in a university environment is a natural progression.

“Whenever there is a sigificant incident the best practice is to go ahead and analyze the current policies and look for ways to strengthen them,” Weaver said. “Policies change over time. There is consistently the need for review.”