

BIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND CAMPUSES ACT OF 1989:

A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE COLLEGE'S ALCOHOL PREVENTION PROGRAM

Fall Semester 2006

I. INTRODUCTION

The document is prepared in compliance with the 1989 amendments to the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act (Part 86, the Drug-Free School and Campuses Regulations). This law requires all institutions of higher education who receive funds or any form of financial assistance under any federal program to conduct a biennial review of its program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. The biennial review's purpose is to assess program effectiveness and to ensure consistency of policy enforcement.

This report is primarily an internal document to be used by Augustana College personnel who have responsibility for preventing the illegal use of alcohol and other drugs on campus. Augustana College is also using this biennial review to document ongoing evaluations of our alcohol programming efforts beyond the minimum set of requirements established by Part 86, the Drug-Free School and Campuses Regulations. The College relies on assessment indicators that provide ongoing measurements of campus climate. The College also conducts periodic reviews of policies and procedures, all for the purpose of assisting students in making safe, healthy, and otherwise responsible choices.

Since 1990, Augustana College has routinely reviewed alcohol and drug related programs, policies and procedures as required by the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. A prepared statement containing the College's policies, disciplinary consequences that may be imposed, a description of health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and alcohol, and a listing of the College's alcohol and other drug resources. This information is distributed annually to all students and staff (online student handbook available at http://www.augie.edu/student_serv/handbook/index.php).



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II. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND JUDICIAL RESPONSES

Augustana College recognizes the serious problems related to the abuse of alcohol and the illicit use of drugs in our society today. In response to this concern, the College is committed to a campus environment that reflects a desire to address alcohol and drug related behaviors. The following goals have been established to provide a healthy, safe, and secure place to live, work, and study:

Augustana College acknowledges and supports local, state, and federal laws pertaining to alcohol abuse and the illicit use of drugs. In particular, the College is guided by the federal "Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1988." This legislation mandates that Augustana will:

- Establish policies that prohibit drug use and alcohol abuse.
- Create a program of strategies to address drug, alcohol, and tobacco problems on the campus and conduct periodic reviews of these strategies.
- Cooperate with local law enforcement officials to ensure that laws on alcohol and drugs are enforced fairly and consistently.

Alcoholic Beverage Policy

The possession and use of alcoholic beverages on campus and at college sponsored functions is prohibited, except in designated college-owned houses and apartments when students are 21 years of age or older. This policy includes the following provisions:

- Intoxication and other alcohol-related behaviors are not condoned.
- Alcoholic beverage paraphernalia such as beer bong used for drinking contest are prohibited.
- The possession of alcoholic beverage containers, either full or empty, is taken as a presumption of use and possession and is considered a policy violation.
- Students are held accountable, even if they do not have actual possession of alcohol, when they are present in a specific location such as a residence hall room where alcoholic beverage containers are present.
- Advertising of which the primary purpose is to promote the use of alcoholic beverages is not permitted.
- Student organization funds may not be used for the purchase of alcohol or the sponsorship of an event where alcohol is available.
- Guidelines to determine disciplinary responses for students who violate the alcohol policy are published in this handbook (refer to "Disciplinary Consequences Guidelines"). Judicial System consequences emphasize personal responsibility and accountability to other members of the campus community. Most disciplinary situations are handled by administrative staff via informal hearings.
- Augustana College seeks to reduce barriers to obtaining emergency assistance because alcohol- and drug-related emergencies are potentially life threatening. In cases of dangerous intoxication and/or alcohol poisoning, it is imperative that medical assistance be summoned. The College believes that a call for medical assistance when faced with an alcohol- or drug-related emergency

far outweighs the consequences of a college policy violation and therefore, no student seeking medical assistance for themselves or another will be subject to college discipline for the sole violation of using or possessing alcoholic beverages. However, the College may mandate education in order to reduce the likelihood of future occurrences.

The College is committed to preventing alcohol abuse and the unlawful possession, use, and distribution of alcoholic beverages. In compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-226), information about applicable laws and consequences pertaining to the unlawful possession, use, and distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol is made available each year. "Alcohol and Drugs: Policies, Procedures and Support" contains an overview of the College's policies and program, a summary of state and federal laws, and consequences that may be imposed for illegal conduct. A copy of this publication is distributed by the Dean of Students Office.

It is unlawful in the State of South Dakota for persons under the age of 21 to possess or consume alcoholic beverages. It is also illegal to sell or distribute alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21.

Drug Policy

The college prohibits the use, possession, distribution, or sale of drugs (i.e. hallucinogens, narcotics, stimulants, and depressants) which are illegal except when prescribed by a physician. The possession of drug-related paraphernalia such as bong and pipes are a violation of South Dakota law and are prohibited. This policy is in accordance with state and federal laws including the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (refer to "Other Policies" section of this document). Violations of this policy will be referred to a law enforcement agency in accordance with civil and criminal law.

Augustana College's policy on drugs has a primary concern for the health and safety of students. In cases of a drug-related overdose, intoxication and/or poisoning, individuals are strongly encouraged to call for medical assistance for themselves or for a friend/acquaintance who is in danger. No student seeking emergency medical treatment for themselves or for another will be subject to college discipline for the sole violation of using or possessing alcohol or drugs.

Disciplinary Consequences

The following provides a description of the general guidelines for determining disciplinary responses. As guidelines, they are not absolute disciplinary responses. The College reserves the right to make disciplinary decisions taking into account the unique circumstances of the incident and the individuals involved.

- Alcoholic Beverages

1st Incident — Attend "Alcohol Workshop" (*\$20 registration fee*) and participate in a 2 hour community service experience on-campus. Workshop also requires a 2-hour commitment. Monetary consequences for not participating - *\$100 (\$55 assessment for alcohol workshop and \$45 for community service experience)*.

2nd Incident — Attend "Choice-Making Workshop" and/or "Alcohol Workshop" (*\$20 registration fee*) and assignment to a local agency to complete between 5 to 15 hours of community service. Monetary consequences for not participating/completing the sanction:

\$40 for choice-making workshop, \$55 for alcohol workshop, and/or \$10 for each hour of community service not completed.

3rd Incident — Referral to Dean of Students or designate for judicial response. In addition to 20 hours of community service, other consequences will address unique circumstances of the incident and may result in a referral to a local alcohol-drug agency for a chemical use assessment. Parents/guardians of students under the age of 21 are notified. Failure to complete sanction will result in a monetary assessment of \$250 (*\$10 for each hour of community service not completed and/or \$50 if assigned to a chemical use assessment*).

- Drugs

Referral to Dean of Students Office or designate for judicial response. All drug-related incidents are reported to the Sioux Falls Police Department. In addition to 20 hours of community service, other consequences will address unique circumstances of the incident and may result in a referral to a local alcohol-drug agency for a chemical use assessment. Parents/guardians of students under the age of 21 are notified. Failure to complete sanction will result in a monetary assessment of \$250 (*\$10 for each hour of community service not completed and/or \$50 if assigned to a chemical use assessment*).

Parent Notification Policy

Parents or guardians of students under the age of 21 may be notified if their son/daughter violates the College's drug policy and those alcohol-related violations that result in an assessment for chemical dependency, probation, or a more severe sanction, as permitted under FERPA regulations.

III. PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

Augustana College uses the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey, data from the College's Judicial System and the Student Health and Counseling Center, along with statistics from other assessment instruments like the Cooperative Institutional Research Project's (CIRP) "Study of the American Freshman." Findings from all of these research oriented sources are used in on-going reviews of our program initiatives, policies and procedures.

Listed below is a brief description of the research tools and other data.

Core Alcohol and Drug Survey

The Core Alcohol and Drug Survey serves as the foundation of the College's alcohol program efforts to assess effectiveness. The Core Alcohol and Drug Survey, hereafter referred to as the Core Survey, is an environmental assessment designed to assist colleges and universities in measuring the nature and extent of drug and alcohol use on their campuses.

We have found the Core Survey to be cost-effective, easy to administer, statistically reliable and valid, relevant to a college population, and results are comparable across institutions.

Augustana College first used the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey in November 1993 as part of its assessment of prevention efforts conducted under the auspices of a two-year FIPSE grant. Since then, the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey has been administered to students at Augustana College every other year (*i.e.*, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003). The methodology for administering this survey instrument has not changed over time. It is administered every other November (*one week before the Thanksgiving break*), in academic classrooms, and during third hour classes to insure a random and representative sample of students enrolled at Augustana College. Each survey's sample demographics have reflected the characteristics of the larger student body at Augustana such as age, sex, academic classification and residence.

Listed below are key findings from the Core Survey administered in the fall of 2005.

- Students over-estimate the alcohol use of their classmates. Augustana students perceive that 83% of their classmates use alcohol (*i.e.*, beer, wine liquor) at least once a week but only 63% report drinking once a week. Of those who do drink once a week, one-third say that they consume 4 drinks or less during the week.
- Student use of alcoholic beverages has remained relatively constant since 1993.
- The prevalence of underage drinking (preceding 30 days) dropped slightly, from 68% in 1997 to 63% in 2003.
- Over one-third of students do not drink at all during an average week.
- High-risk drinking has not changed significantly in recent years as 4 out of 10 students report that they consumed 5 or more drinks in one sitting in the previous two weeks before taking the survey. Closer analysis of this high risk drinking pattern found that men participate in high-risk drinking more than women and student-athletes are involved in more high-risk drinking than others in the student body.

- Responses over the ten year period from 1993 to 2003 indicate that students acknowledge that Augustana cares about preventing alcohol and drug use. They say that there is awareness of a prevention program on campus, and they know that the College has alcohol/drug policies.
- The number of students who said that they are involved in efforts to prevent alcohol and drug use problems on our campus doubled in the past two years (16% in 2003 compared with only 8% indicating involvement in 2001).
- According to Core Survey data from 2001, one-half of the student body abides by the college's alcohol and drug policies. More women than men responded that they followed policies and regulations.
- One-third of Augie students prefer not to have alcohol available at parties that they attend.
- Alcohol use continues to be a common thread when students have experienced forms of harassment or violence. 9% reported that they were victims of unwanted sexual contact in the past year (a decrease from 1993-97, 13%).
- 28% reported serious personal problems (i.e., hurt, injured, suicidality, tried to stop using alcohol or drugs, sexual assault) during the past year, down 10% since 1993.
- Four out of every ten Augustana students reported that because of their alcohol and/or drug use, they had done something they later regretted, a statistic that has not changed over time.
- 31% of the student body drove a car while under the influence in the past year. This high-risk statistic has decreased since 1993 (38%) but continues to indicate a large number of students who drink and drive.
- Marijuana use dropped slightly in 2003. 7% compared with 10% in 2001. In the past two year has increased since 1993. 7% of students reported use in the past 30 days, 10% reported using marijuana (pot, hash, hash oil) in 2001. 77% of current students have never tried marijuana.

Judicial System

The data reported in the table below compare alcohol and other drug related judicial incidents (referrals) and known arrests over the past four calendar years. (*Source of data: Annual Campus Crime Reports — Clery Act.*)

Five-Year Summary of Judicial Incidents.

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Liquor Law , Arrests	5	1	0	0	0
Liquor Law, Judicial Referrals *	158	159	178	158	172
Drug Law, Arrests	5	5	0	1	6
Drug Law, Judicial Referrals	5	4	0	2	7

- Reported liquor law (*judicial referrals*) reflect Augustana's policy that holds students in violation of the code of student conduct if they are present in a residence hall room or like space where an alcoholic beverage is found regardless of whether a student consumed or was in possession of the alcoholic beverage.
- Closer analysis of alcohol violations finds that younger students, particularly frosh, are involved in more judicial incidents than upperclassmen, a trend that has remained unchanged over time. Judicial reports for the 2003 -2004 academic year found that 51% of all alcohol violations on the campus in involved frosh (35% *sophomores*, 9% *juniors*, and 5% *seniors*).
- Mandated alcohol assessments from the Judicial System have averaged three referrals in each of the past four years. Chemical dependency assessments are referred to local agencies.

Other Data

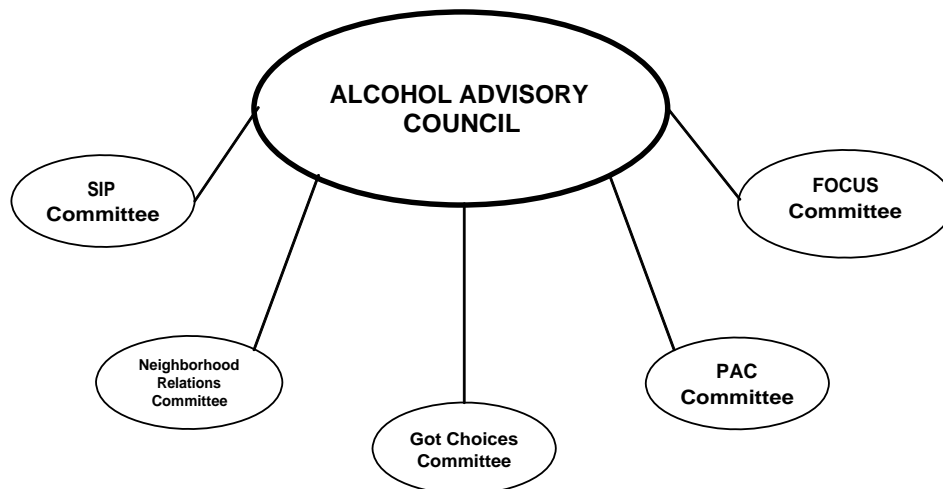
- 61% of freshmen enrolled in fall semester 2002 reported using alcoholic beverages (*i.e., beer, wine, liquor*) during the twelve month period prior to beginning classes at Augustana. This finding compares with a national norm for private-religious colleges in which only 43% of freshmen in 2002 reported using alcohol.
- Students seeking assistance for alcohol-related concerns at Student Health & Counseling Services has been relatively low. Last year (*2003 - 2004 academic year*), seventeen counseling sessions identified alcohol use as the presenting issue, twenty-one sessions in 2002 - 2003.

IV. AUGUSTANA COLLEGE'S ALCOHOL PROGRAM

Augustana's alcohol program is led by a council representing staff and students from a variety of student life departments and student organizations. The Alcohol Advisory Council coordinates the activities of five distinct committees as illustrated in the chart located below. Each committee is chaired by a staff member who sits on the Alcohol Advisory Council. In all, over fifty students, faculty and administrative staff are involved as members of the council and committees each year.

The purpose of the **Alcohol Advisory Council** is to promote health, safety and academic success of all students through a variety of strategic initiatives that emphasize responsible choice-making, personal accountability and accurate information. The purpose statements for each of the five committees are presented below.

The Alcohol Advisory Council model was initially adopted during the 2002 - 2003 academic year with four distinct committees; SIP Committee, Neighborhood Relations Committee, Got Choices Committee, and PAC Committee (*refer to committee descriptions below*). In 2004, the FOCUS committee was created to respond to alcohol-related issues associated with the first-year experience.



SIP (Student Issues Programming Committee) will raise the awareness of alcohol-related consequences and risks by promoting activities as an alternative to drinking during high-risk times during the academic calendar year.

Neighborhood Relations Committee will assess and create initiatives that are responsive to creating and maintaining good neighborhood relations within the immediate vicinity of the campus.

Got Choices Committee will promote positive messages designed to empower students to develop healthy and safe decision-making skills using a wide range of media.

PAC (Policy, Assessment & Curriculum Committee) will facilitate a variety of education-training opportunities. PAC will regularly review policies and procedures, assess the campus community through research activities, and will explore funding opportunities for ongoing alcohol program support.

FOCUS (Frosh Opportunities, Choices, Understanding and Success Committee) will promote activities that emphasize responsible decision-making skills, accurate information and focused programming for first-year students during the first months of the college experience.

V. CHRONOLOGY OF AOD PROGRAMMING, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- 1993 Received a FIPSE Grant (funded for four years).
- 1993 Administered the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey to students. The Core has been used every other year since 1993 (1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2003).
- 1994 Administered the Core Alcohol and Drug Survey for Faculty and Staff.
- 1997 Augustana College became a member of the Network Addressing Collegiate Alcohol and Other Drug Issues.
- 1998 Revised drug policy. Added a statement that prohibits the possession of drug-related paraphernalia such as bongs and pipes (a violation of State of South Dakota Law).
- 1999 Revised alcohol policy. Added statement that prohibits the possession of paraphernalia such as beer bongs used in drinking contests and games.
- 1999 Implemented a parent notification policy. As a result of changes to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Augustana developed guidelines by which the College will inform parents of alcohol and drug policy violations.
- 1999 Designed and implemented an alcohol education workshop as part of the judicial system response to alcohol-related policy violations.
- 2000 Received an NCAA Choices Grant (funded for three years).
- 2000 Established a committee of staff and students to coordinate the implementation of alternative programming on high-risk drinking dates — SIP Committee (Student Issues Programming).
- 2001 Revised alcohol and drug policies. Added an amnesty statement to reduce barriers to students in obtaining emergency assistance because of alcohol- and drug-related emergencies.
- 2002 Developed and implemented an organizational structure to address alcohol-related programming. Under the umbrella of an Alcohol Advisory Council, four distinct committees were created; to respond to programming on high-risk drinking dates during the academic year (SIP Committee), to launch a social norms campaign (Got Choices Committee), to respond to alcohol-related disturbances within the college neighborhood (Neighborhood Relations Committee), and to review policies and procedures, explore grant opportunities, and to assess AOD topics within the curriculum (PAC Committee). *Refer to Section IV. "Augustana College's Alcohol Program" for further information.*
- 2004 Added a fifth committee to the Alcohol Advisory Council's organizational structure. The FOCUS Committee was created to establish a focused programming effort for first-year students during the first months of the college experience. *Refer to Section IV. "Augustana College's Alcohol Program" for further information.*
- 2004 BASICS program added to the College's judicial system consequences. BASICS (Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students), is a harm reduction program targeted toward students who exhibit high-risk drinking behaviors. BASICS is to be fully implemented in early 2005.

- 2006 Revised alcohol policy. New policy permits students living in college-owned apartments and theme house and who are at least twenty-one years old to use alcoholic beverages.
- 2006 Developed and administered an online alcohol survey for faculty and staff.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROGRAM REVIEW IN NEXT BIENNIAL PERIOD

1. Explore opportunities to effectively communicate the College's AOD amnesty policy and procedures.
2. Establish a relationship (understanding) between the College's judicial system and the athletic department's NCAA drug testing program.
3. Develop strategies to address high-risk drinking at off-campus settings, particularly in the neighborhood around the campus. Strategic planning process initiated in 2006 with assistance from the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention.
4. Continue to work with the local police department to improve communication about student incidents in the city involving alcohol and other drugs.