

SCAPE: November 5, 2009

Present: Melissa Kelley, Matt Burns, Jason Alben, Linda Dudman, Alyssa Brill, Ryan Mills, Laurel Contomanolis, Bhargav Chandrashekar, George VanderZwaag

Matt: Discussed how we'll start taking meeting minutes and where they'll be posted; hopes that they'll be available to the campus community to view- this will lead to more transparency for the group

Jason: We should have the minutes sent out after they are reviewed by the group so they can be approved by the group

Matt: Have a bulk of the minutes, from past meetings, approved for distribution next week. Matt will need to get with George to have an athletics representative present for the meetings.

General Comment: Resident Assistant, Multicultural Greek Council and athletics representatives are still missing

Open Container Issue

Matt: Not an issue but a policy. Since there is so much on the table, should we also add this issue or table it for a later date? The discussion would be centered on porches. Since the law isn't clear we'll have to make up our minds about it.

Jason: Wants to bring up this issue because he went to the Fraternity Quad Advisory Council (FQAC) last night. He discussed the issues that SCAPE raised and Jason brought back the issues raised by FQAC.

Jason: Dick Rasmussen said there is a policy in place to deal with the garbage that's left on the fraternity quad

Ryan: Not a huge issue so we should table it (open container debate) for now

Alyssa: Table it and bring up later

Bhargav: Wanted clarification on the policy about porches/ open containers

Matt: Explains how the policy currently stands

George: Still struggling w/ a double standard and everything we're doing points to a double standard (residence areas vs. fraternity quad). The larger question is about registering a party in other areas on campus besides the fraternity quad.

Laurel: Certain areas of the residence halls have been used in the past for events. There has been debate in the past about this issue and about using places like the Hill Court basement for events.

George: Are any residence halls where freshman live off limits?

Laurel: Yes because freshman areas are dry. Anyone over 21, like resident assistants, can drink in their own private rooms

General comment by several people: The parties can hold over 75 are the fraternity houses and not other residential areas on campus which is why this document is focusing on events with alcohol on the fraternity quad.

George: There is no double standard. (There seemed to be a misunderstanding).

Matt: Group wants to table the open container laws until a later date. We'll have to have a larger discussion about this idea. It will not just be dealing with porches.

Drug Free Schools Act

Matt: Updates?

Linda: Yes (distributes handout)

Linda: Has a binder of everything collected thus far for review (shown to committee).

What criteria do we look at when discussing harms?

Matt: What we lack is whether or not we know if the policies we have are working. The alcohol policy isn't just about violations but about preventing things from occurring. How is it that we know if we are reducing violations or harms?

Jason: Reducing harm- look at MERT data and make it available to the population; number of MERT calls, students hospitalized; working w/ Strong Memorial Hospital (SMH) to see an age range being treated

Bhargav: MERT is working on this now

Jason: See if there are a lot of students going to hospital and not calling MERT

Bhargav: 20% of calls are alcohol related. MERT is trying to find where they are on campus when they were drinking and ambulance arrival times. Those that go to SMH without MERT are really small. In his experience about 60% of the students go to the hospital. The past few weekends there haven't been many transports from fraternity quad. More updates will be given at the next SCAPE meeting.

Melissa: At some of the meetings she has, students report where they were drinking.

Jason: We need to tread lightly through this area. More students will lie about where they were drinking to avoid getting into trouble.

Matt: The problem with looking at MERT statistics is that as soon as students know we use this as a measure, students won't call because they know we use it as a measure.

Linda: How many students go to BASICS? We should look at those referred as a measure.

Matt: We should look at what's taken into account when developing a policy around alcohol.

Jason: Fear takes away the incentive to call for help for groups because they are afraid they'll get into trouble for serving to a minor

Matt: Questions are going to be asked regardless, just as if they had been drinking at a bar and then drove away, the bartender would be questioned. What else can we look at to see if a policy works?

Ryan: See more qualitative data- come to the fraternity quad. There is a barrier between students and administration.

Melissa: Look at and obtaining cultural data (i.e. drinking games)

Jason: If we want student data we should use focus groups to see if they (students) know the policy and if they find it effective; if people knew the policy it may be more effective. It's hard to look at numbers and find out what people are thinking.

Bhargav: Another measure to use- looking at Security and how many parties are being broken up by them in different areas. Look to see where more students tend to be.

Jason: Look at sanctions issued by class and by year although this may not be a good measure

Matt: We can look at the discipline data but restrict group and individual

Linda: We will have data from NCHA in 4-6 weeks to look at

Jason: A member of the Office of the Dean of Students (ODOS) with Monica Smalls should go to fraternities on the quad to get their input

Matt: this is in the works according currently.

Alyssa: Need more student representatives and not just those that are Greek members

Matt: Another measure we could use: alcohol impairment issues and violence

Alyssa: Look at non-alcoholic event shows and see if numbers have increased

Bhargav: Repeat offenses after 2nd chance

Matt: 1 out of 4 students are repeat

Alyssa: Follow-up usage data for non-recidivist

Matt: Minutes in bulk will be distributed to the group for their review prior to being posted

Next SCAPE meeting Thursday, November 12, 2009 @ 12:45pm.