

SCAPE
March 31, 2010

Present: Morgan Levy, Melissa Kelley, Luccas Piazza, Vincent Derienzo, Melissia Schmidt, Andrea Golden, Ryan Mills, Mike Epping, Linda Dudman, Jason Alben, Matt Burns

Introductions are made to Mike Epping and he discusses his role in Security.

Morgan: Meeting minutes from 3/3/10 are distributed for review. A couple tasks we had to do from last meeting to this meeting, which didn't get completed.

Vincent: MERT has stats done and will be e-mailed to Morgan.

Morgan: More alcoholic events last semester as opposed to this semester. Next meeting the judicial data will be brought to the meeting along with the MERT data.

Project Updates

Project 1: Communicating the alcohol policy

Melissa: We are still submitting information to weekly buzz. Met w/ Eleanor Oi to discuss orientation stuff. One change is going to have an alcohol focus and not sexual assault focus. We are going to talk w/ Dan Watts to engage in more alcohol programming. During orientation week all frats agreed to hold a night where no alcohol is present from 10pm to 1am and if there is [alcohol present] then there will be stiff penalties.

Ryan: Are we going to submit alcohol policy on next weekly buzz article?

Melissa: If it fits the topic we will. Eleanor is totally on board with these ideas (dry frat quad day, no alcohol). All organizations agreed to be dry during this event and all signed off on this as well.

Ryan: Great idea for event but we also need to be careful about freshman drinking in their rooms. Security has to be really on top of their game.

Morgan: It's not really going to be a change because in the past freshman were never supposed to go to parties on the fraternity quad during orientation week.

Luccas: There are events on quad that evening like games as well.

Jason: IFC (formerly FPC) is helping plan the event and it's starting to look like a carnival and the idea that Ryan brought up was discussed and they didn't seem concerned.

Melissa: All the groups agreed to do this knowing that if there was alcohol on the quad that there would be a price to pay.

Linda: It does seem like an opportunity to see what is going on in the residence halls.

Morgan: There weren't parties allowed on that night in the past so there really is no change.

Jason: There were no events in the past telling everyone to come to the fraternity quad. It may be a great opportunity to get some data on judicial incidents related to alcohol, MERT calls and Security calls. Andrew Maloof (pres of IFC) stressing importance of this event and useful of it as a rush tool and nobody wants to mess this up.

Mike: There were no parties in the past but there were underlying alcohol use behind the doors but saying there is no alcohol is a step up from saying there are no parties.

Jason: Are upperclassman going to be on campus then? (*No*)

Ryan: There is a chance that this could be more dangerous. We still need to keep an eye those not going to event.

Mike: RA's, Student Aides and Security Officers in the residence halls can help with this as well.

Jason: Those fraternity members that do apply and are granted permission to come in early will be around as well as orientation staff on site as well.

Ryan: I'm just worried about those people that don't go to the event.

Jason: Did the non-fraternity houses [houses not on the quad] sign on for this as well?

Melissia: You're (IFC) working closely with FSA and risk management to see what's allowed and what gets approved through orientation. I don't see you doing actual carnival rides since they are only allowed to be used on Yellow Jacket weekend. It's important that what you're doing doesn't overlap with what is already being done a week later for Yellow Jacket weekend.

Morgan: Groups have proposed to me to have an orientation program talking to 1st year students about alcohol use. The fraternity leadership wants the message out there that they don't want drunken freshman in their house and that it's not cool for them to be doing this. It would be good if it were well supervised and programmed. This is something I should talk to Eleanor about doing.

Melissa: HPO would be involved in this as well. We would have to make sure that the members that are doing the education are equally responsible.

Linda: In the past they had a panel discussion with drinkers and non-drinkers talking to students. The panel itself did some interacting amongst each other. That seemed to work pretty well but we're not sure if that impacted the students enough to make a difference.

Morgan: Presidents of organizations seem to genuinely want to address this in their conversation w/ students because they are getting in trouble for it.

Melissa: On board with offering a couple different options because we know we won't get every freshman to attend. If we offer a couple of different options we may get a few students at one program and a few at another program.

Linda: Do we have to apply for an orientation program?

Matt: We have a history of most of our efforts based in research and we want to make sure that time spent is done on tried and true examples.

Linda: The core survey addresses pre-gaming idea. It asks about it within the last 30 days and about 50% of the random sample surveyed engaged in it. Linda will look at the data again and report back to the group.

Jason: Is there someplace to see the core survey?

Melissa: Monthly installment has some data about drinkers and non-drinkers.

Andrea: How was the question about pre-gaming asked?

Linda: It was the core survey and done in the spring of 2008 and not done around spring break.

Linda: NCHA data (fall 2009) is shown to group and discussed about alcohol use. Students perceive other people drink more than they actually do. There was a 22.6% response rate (541 students): 25% never used, 10% did not use in the last 30 days; perception slide: there is quite a discrepancy between what students perceive and what is actually reported.

Melissa: Responses are based on the student's perception and the people they associate with. We are also close to the national average with our data.

Ryan: Feels the statistics are pretty close.

Matt: Marijuana and alcohol are both social drugs. That means that those students typically find each other and tend to surround themselves with others whose use is similar to theirs. Marijuana smokers tend to surround themselves with others who smoke marijuana. You find large groups with alcohol in the same way. The perception of that use is much higher if you're around those types of people. There is no benefit to lying on this survey either.

Linda: The marijuana statistics is close to the national statistic. Binge drinking slide: male 35%, female 31% answered that they did participate in this in 1 sitting.

Melissa: The numbers may be this way because of the way people define what a drink is. Many people may perceive what they have as one drink when in reality it's 3 drinks. They aren't

recognizing their cup size or the amount they are drinking as more than a drink. They perceive a cup as a drink as opposed to 1 shot.

Mike: Next time we do the survey make sure they know that this is what is defined as a drink.

Morgan: Troubling that 1% seriously considered suicide.

Matt: In his career almost all (with the exception of maybe 1) suicides were alcohol related.

Andrea: The whole combination of medicine and being on and off medicine with alcohol needs to be another line in this. We are definitely living in that type of world now. I'm not sure if those types of questions are being inserted in the survey models to look for that type of population.

Melissa: There are questions related to other drugs but unsure if there is a question about whether or not you take your drugs when you drink. There is a question about prescription medication and the medical use of prescription medication.

Andrea: The whole term alcohol is not looked at as a drug.

Ryan: What are the statistics of suicide and depression nationally?

Linda: Considered suicide or thought about suicide- 8% of our sample who responded. The national average has a similar response rate.

Melissa: This is our students who are reporting this.

Ryan: It's sad that fellow students are considering this but it seems to match up nationally.

Linda: The numbers over the past few years are consistent with what we've surveyed in the past.

Jason: Does the question mean pill bottle in one hand and a bottle of alcohol in the other?

Linda: There were a set of questions related to mental health not alcohol.

Morgan: I think it means whatever that student thinks it means.

Melissa: About 2% of our students, while drinking, seriously considered suicide. The question was asked in terms of alcohol use and non-alcohol use .

Linda: When you look at the protective behaviors, the things we (HPO) are putting out (in the weekly buzz) are looking at these protective behaviors that people are using.

Morgan: I wish there were a way to see whether students are looking at the weekly buzz. In the parents buzz, they are looking at some sort of technology to see what links the parents click on. I wonder if the weekly buzz could do this as well; probably if they are both through communications.

Ryan: The number of protective behaviors was pretty impressive.

Matt: Those types of message are out there (responsible driving).

Jason: Wants to use some of Dean Burns' logic and play devil's advocate. These numbers are very high. It's also possible that just like kids could be lying about how much they are drinking, they could also be lying about the dumb decisions they are making. For instance they could be like I'm not going to admit I got drunk and got into a car with drunken people.

Morgan: They might know in their minds they shouldn't be doing that.

Linda: With the self report surveys in general, some people might overestimate and some might underestimate, and some are pretty close. If you're asking for the last 12 months you're not going to be precise in the answers. You take it all into consideration.

Matt: The numbers are too much of a discrepancy but they are the only numbers we have and are the best way to get these results.

Melissa: Our numbers match up across the country.

Linda: The other data were the number of people social host trained: 152 from 9/1/09 up until now. This is not the numbers that have been social host trained on our campus; it is just the number that were trained from 9/1/09. The number of students that have come through BASICS as of this point is 42.

Melissa: BASICS is for students have an alcohol violation and they qualify for a certain type of educational intervention. BASICS is a 2 visit program but there is also a 1 visit program.

Project 2: Collecting Data Update

Matt: We will write up where data can be collected (and in some cases has been collected) for next meeting; suggest area where it's not been collected but could in the future.

Morgan: The collecting data will be updated at the next meeting. The judicial data, MERT data and list of other data will be here for the next meeting. I'll create a sheet so that we have the data in one place.

Surveying Parents Data Update

Morgan: We met once to start looking at the responses. There are a lot of responses from parents and a lot of comments. Over 800 started the survey and we're trying to quantify that data and it's going to take a long time. It won't be done before the end of the year (academic).

Ryan: Did we send note to students informing them that we'd inform parents?

Morgan: We put it in the parents buzz.

Ryan: I had a lot of senators come up to me and ask me if I knew about this. I had a few students that were upset that they weren't informed about this going out to parents.

Morgan: The parents buzz only goes to parents and it did go to some parents of incoming students as well.

Morgan: Overall there are positive comments from parents.

Ryan: Could we tailor the survey so we can see the change in parent's perspective over time? If we sent it to them in their freshman year or before they came here and then again in their junior year?

Morgan: It didn't go out to too many parents of incoming freshman. I think that it was just parents of students who accepted but then deferred their acceptance. I think there is a group that gets accepted in the spring semester and then defer to the fall semester so they are already on the list.

Linda: We talked briefly about having a program for parents with this data and do a survey of parents before they come.

Morgan: That's all for the updates we have for the subgroups. We started talking briefly about how to identify harms and we came back to the idea that we need data before we can have a conversation about what the numbers mean and how we can evaluate. It would be more helpful if we have numbers to back up our theories and perspectives.

Ryan: What data are you talking about?

Morgan: Next meeting we'll have the judicial data and MERT data and the outline of the data we're going to be collecting from other areas. We can start talking about the judicial data and MERT data but that only gives us a little sliver of a perspective and we can't say if our policies are good or bad based on that small amount of information. We may not be able to come to a decision.

Ryan: This data is sensitive?

Morgan: Yes, we'll try and send the MERT data to the group before hand to review so we don't spend the first 15 minutes of the next meeting reviewing data.

Vincent: The data is HIPPA protected so it is confidential.

Morgan: We can all respect the confidentiality of the data.

Vincent: Will discuss MERT data w/ executive board and let Morgan know if they are okay w/ sharing the data.

Mike: How deep are you getting into it, names and locations?

Vincent: No, just general numbers are in the data for review.

Morgan: Our judicial data is broken down by location.

Melissia: Are we looking at all data or on specific dates?

Vincent: Unsure if we are looking at weekend dates but will look at it with the executive board.

Morgan: With the judicial data, we'll bring historical data.

Vincent: Not sure how far back MERT data goes. The current member in charge of this is doing a good job getting everything organized whereas in the past it was spotty.

Mike: You can probably generalize the blocks of time because that might matter.