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Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program

Cowley College
Drug and Alcohol Task Force
December 12, 2016

The Cowley College Drug and Alcohol Task Force (“Task Force”) met on December 12, 2016 in order to discuss the biennial review of the institution’s alcohol and other drug (“AOD”) prevention program. The review was then finalized.

Based on the results of the biennial review, the Task Force has revised the previous prevention program description, dated December 4, 2014. This document is the written description of the updated program, plus a list of priorities for improvement of the program during calendar years 2017 and 2018.

As a guide to its efforts, the Task Force continues to endorse the following AOD prevention goals (from the Substance Abuse Education Initiative, 1995):

1. Articulate and consistently enforce clear policies that promote an educational environment free from AOD use/abuse.
2. Provide ongoing education for members of the campus community for the purpose of preventing AOD use.
3. Provide a reasonable level of care for substance abusers through counseling, treatment, and referral.
4. Implement campus activities that promote and reinforce health, responsible living, respect for community and campus standards, individual responsibility on campus, and intellectual, social, emotional, spiritual or ethical, and physical well-being of the members.
5. Be vocal and visionary in combating the negative issues surrounding AOD use and abuse on campus.

Program Description

Based on the biennial review completed December 12, 2016, the Task Force has determined that the components of the current AOD prevention program include:

Annual notification

Each employee and each student (who is taking one or more classes for any type of academic credit except for continuing education units) is provided at least annually with written materials that adequately describe and contain the following: The Executive Director of Student Affairs reviews the information contained in the Annual Notification prior to distribution each semester.

- a. Standards of conduct that prohibit unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on Cowley College property or as a part of Cowley College activities.
- b. A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol.
- c. A description of applicable legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law.

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- d. A description of applicable counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or reentry programs.
- e. A clear statement of the disciplinary sanctions the institution will impose on students and employees, and a description of those sanctions.

Biennial review

The Task Force conducts a biennial review of prevention efforts by December 31 of each even numbered year. The results of the biennial review are made available on the Cowley College web site.

Written prevention program

The Task Force maintains a written prevention program. The prevention program is revised by December 31 of each even numbered year following completion of the biennial review. The written program is made available on the Cowley College web site.

Prevention Team

The members of the Task Force act collectively as prevention specialists for the institution. The primary responsibility of the Task Force is to provide direction regarding prevention efforts. The Executive Director of Student Affairs, a member of the Task Force, acts as liaison to the institutional management team, reviews and coordinates responses to Student of Concern reports, and supervises the process of alcohol and drug-related sanctions.

Alcohol-free options

- a. Alcohol-free events and activities are sponsored.
- b. Student service-learning or volunteer opportunities are created, publicized, and promoted.
- c. Community-service work is required as part of the academic curriculum in the social sciences.
- d. The campus offers a student center, recreation center, and other alcohol-free settings.
- e. The student center, fitness center, and other alcohol-free settings have expanded hours.
- f. Nonalcoholic beverages are promoted at events.

Normative environment

- a. The academic schedule offers core classes on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.
- b. Exams/projects require class attendance and academic responsibility.
- c. Substance-free residence options are available (all dorms are substance-free).
- d. The campus encourages an increase in academic standards.
- e. Faculty are encouraged to engage in a higher level of contact with students.
- f. Students are educated about misperceptions of drinking norms (e.g. Cowley Activity Awareness Team, BASICS, AlcoholEdu).
- g. Student leadership in prevention is developed (orientation leaders, resident assistants, student organizations, Cowley Activity Awareness Team).
- h. Students have opportunities to advise and mentor peers (Cowley Activity Awareness Team).

Alcohol availability

- a. Alcohol availability on campus is strictly limited to the conditions outlined in Policy 140.00, "Exemptions from Alcoholic Beverages Policy."

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Marketing and promotion of alcohol

- a. Alcohol industry sponsorship for on-campus events is very limited.
- b. Content of party or event announcements is limited.
- c. Alcohol promotion with special appeal to underage drinkers is banned.
- d. Alcohol promotions that show drinking in high-risk contexts are banned.

Policy development and enforcement

- a. On-campus functions must be registered.
- b. Attendees are subject to ID checks at on-campus functions.
- c. Violations of campus AOD policies result in disciplinary sanctions.
- d. AOD related offenses are subject to prosecution (police are called regarding all AOD related incidents).

Special conditions for student athletes

- a. Student athletes are subject to random testing for drugs of abuse.
- b. Student athletes are subject to disciplinary action and referrals for counseling based on off-campus alcohol or drug related violations.
- c. Student athletes who test positive for illicit drugs are monitored by way of follow-up testing.

BASICS

Brief **A**lcohol **S**creening and **I**ntervention for **C**ollege **S**tudents has been adopted as the primary method used in the mandatory counseling for student alcohol violations. The BASICS program is a screening and intervention program that is empirically validated for use with college students, and is endorsed by the U.S. Department of Education as a “Tier 1” strategy.

Prevention documentation

Task Force documentation is maintained on the Cowley College web site. Documents maintained there include the written prevention plan, the biennial review, and minutes of the Task Force meetings. The Task Force chair has primary responsibility for ensuring that these documents are accurate and up to date.

Cowley Activity Awareness Team (CAAT)

The Cowley Activity Awareness Team (CAAT) is an ongoing service learning and peer education project. The CAAT team is comprised of Cowley College students who have completed a peer education program.

Student of Concern

Student of Concern is a reporting program that permits concerned individuals (students, employees, parents, and others) to identify Cowley College students with unmet needs (including AOD issues) by way of a confidential report made through the Cowley College web site to the Executive Director of Student Affairs.

Behavioral Intervention Team

Cowley College has in place a Behavioral Intervention Team, which includes members of the Drug and Alcohol Task Force, and is chaired by the Executive Director of Student Affairs. The mission of this team is to proactively and systematically manage problematic student behavior, including AOD related behavior.

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Electronic Intervention

Cowley College has adopted AlcoholEdu and its related products as the institution's primary method of electronic prevention. AlcoholEdu has been added as a requirement in First Year Experience classes and is available to all students, faculty, and staff. AlcoholEdu for Sanctions will be used in conjunction with the BASICS program for students that receive AOD violations.

AlcoholEDU

Cowley College has adopted AlcoholEdu, as the institution's primary method of assessing alcohol, drug, and other health-related issues. AlcoholEdu is a requirement of the First Year Experience class that is held each semester.

Employee Involvement in Prevention

An ongoing project of the Task Force is to identify opportunities to involve employees in AOD prevention efforts.

Arkansas City Police Department

An ongoing project of the Task Force is to identify opportunities to involve representatives of the Arkansas City Police Department (ACPD) in AOD prevention efforts. ACPD is represented in Task Force meetings.

Priorities for Improvement of the AOD Prevention Program

During the 2017 and 2018 calendar years, the Task Force will focus on the following opportunities for improvement of the institutional prevention program:

1. Social Norms Marketing

The Task Force will work to market AlcoholEdu to all students, staff and faculty on campus, not just students that are required to take First Year Experience.

2. Breathalyzers for Security Staff

The Task Force will work to determine if the use of breathalyzers by Security Staff on Campus will be beneficial for students, faculty, and staff.