

October 2007



# University of South Carolina Alcohol & Drug Programs



## Mark Your Calendar:

### Alcohol & Drug Programs Action Committee (ADPAC)

You are invited to participate in the monthly ADPAC meetings held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month 10:30am – 12:00pm. Meetings will be held in Russell House #034, and are scheduled for:

October 11<sup>th</sup>  
November 8<sup>th</sup>  
December 13

### Alcohol & Drug Programs' Staff:

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### Online Alcohol Test Precedes College Admission

September 10, 2007

Incoming Cornell University freshman must log onto a website and complete an online alcohol-prevention course before moving onto campus, CNN reported Sept. 5.

Cornell is one of more than 1,000 colleges that now require students to complete online courses about the dangers of drinking. Prevention programs used by colleges include Outside the Classroom's AlcoholEdu, and 3rd Millennium Classroom's Alcohol Wise. For students who already have experienced alcohol-related problem at school, colleges can turn to online intervention programs like San Diego University Research Foundation's E-Chug.

Schools began adopting the programs around the beginning of the decade. The earliest programs were aimed at underage drinkers and other alcohol offenders, but about three years ago schools began to start using online programs for incoming freshmen, too.

Programs like AlcoholEdu and Alcohol Wise, which take 1-3 hours to complete, query incoming students about their alcohol intake, then give advice on alcohol use and how it affects the body. A final exam helps ensure that the lesson sinks in. There's also a follow-up program that's due about a month later. Schools can track who completed the survey and follow-up, but not the responses of individual students.

E-Chug, which takes about 20 minutes to complete, is focused more on behavior modification than education. Most students say they find the programs helpful. "The program changed my entire outlook on drinking," said Gabrielle Dunkley, 17, a freshman at the University of Maryland at College Park.

"I knew that it could lead to irresponsible decisions but some of the statistics revealed that even those who are always cautious and safe could be placed in very unsafe predicaments."

But Alexandr Kazachkov, a freshman at Cornell University said the program "had some educational points, but mostly it was a sort of propaganda trying to convince kids that they need not drink to be cool. Drinking is fine to do it as long as you know your limits and don't go overboard."

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/headlines/inthenews/2007/online-alcohol-test-precedes.html>

### Young Binge Drinkers Face Dim Future, Researchers Report

September 6, 2007 - Research Summary

Teenagers who binge drink are 60 percent more likely to become alcoholics by the time they reach age 30 than non-bingers, and also are more likely to use illicit drugs and commit crimes, the [BBC](#) reported Sept. 5.

The U.K.'s *Institute of Child Health* studied 11,000 children, comparing the drinking habits of 16-year-olds in 1986 to a variety of outcomes when they hit age 30. Those classified as binge drinkers in their teens were 40 percent more likely to use illicit drugs or suffer mental-health problems by age 30, 60 percent more likely to be homeless, and 40 percent more likely to have suffered accidents.

"Adolescent binge-drinking is a risk behavior associated with significant later adversity and social exclusion," said lead researcher Russell Viner. Added Frank Soodeen of the group Alcohol Concern, "This study makes worrying reading. It confirms the view that early alcohol misuse can effectively haunt a young person well into adulthood, with all the implications to health and well-being that that can imply."

The study was published in the *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2007/young-binge-drinkers-face-dim.html>

Please view USC's online program  
*myStudentBody.com* at  
[www.sa.sc.edu/adp/](http://www.sa.sc.edu/adp/)

## More National Updates

### GU Boosts Night Programming

*Events Offered to Curb Drinking*

By Dana Walsh

Friday, September 7, 2007

In an effort to provide social programming for students on weekend nights and as part of a broader university-wide effort to limit on-campus alcohol consumption, Georgetown has extended late-night entertainment with a new program.

The new program — called “What’s After Dark” — was created “to provide students with a variety of options to socialize and engage in numerous activities during late weekend hours,” Tanesha Stewart, assistant director of student programs, said. Alcohol is not served at What’s After Dark events.

Last Friday, the Office of Student Programs, in conjunction with the Office of Residence Life and other university groups, held a “Midnight Carnival” on Copley Lawn, and the following night played host to a dance party in Lauinger Library, called “Party at Club Lau.”

The Midnight Carnival attracted approximately 1,500 students and university staff, and approximately 700 students and staff attended Club Lau, Stewart said.

Events in the four freshmen residence halls — Darnall Hall, Harbin Hall, New South and Village C West — also took place on Saturday night.

“The attendance was better than what we expected,” Stewart said, adding that administrators were pleased with the campus response.

University President John J. DeGioia said that the programs last weekend were designed to encourage students to participate in activities that do not involving drinking at parties. In an interview this week, he said that there was “tremendous turnout for these events, [which was] very encouraging.”

What’s After Dark will continue to sponsor various programs throughout the year, and events will take place every weekend.

“This was an explicit part of what he hoped to create in the context of putting in place the new policy, and I think the very first two weeks have been promising in their return,” DeGioia said.

Todd Olson, vice president for Student Affairs said that the goal of What’s After Dark is not to end parties at Georgetown.

The Office of Student Affairs has been “looking at the national landscape,” and other schools including Pennsylvania State University, West Virginia University, Villanova University and Santa Clara University have

been successful in implementing late-night programming as alternatives to parties in residences, Olson said.

A similar initiative began on a smaller scale last year and included ice cream socials and events during New Student Orientation, as well as numerous social events throughout the academic year, Olson said.

What’s After Dark recently launched a new Web site, [www.latenight.georgetown.edu](http://www.latenight.georgetown.edu), to publicize its events. This weekend’s events include Screen Under the Stars on the rooftop of LXR and Sellinger Pub Trivia Night tonight, and the Black Student Alliance Welcome Back Party, Shuttle Night on Healy Lawn and Late Night Game Night in the Village C Alumni Lounge tomorrow night.

The Georgetown Program Board has been working to enhance their late-night programming as well, said Andrew Rumin (NHS ’10), public relations chair of GPB. He said the success of Party at Club Lau and the Midnight Carnival indicates that students want more late-night programming.

GPB also wants to capitalize on the funding now available from the Office of Student Affairs to all student groups to increase the number of events, especially “after-dark events,” Rumin said. GPB is looking into coordinating concerts, sporting events and “dance parties in different places” like Club Lau, he said.

GUSA has also been involved in encouraging late-night programming. Student Association President Ben Shaw (COL ’08) said these programs are a good way to “reduce any drinking problems” on campus.

These types of events are a better way to “build community” and are more effective than restricting the university’s alcohol policies, as administrators have done in recent months, Shaw said.

In response to student outcry over the new regulations — which include stricter registration regulations and parental-notification guidelines — Shaw canvassed campus with Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Jeanne Lord, and Judy Johnson, director of student conduct, early Saturday morning.

While they covered most of campus, they particularly focused on Village A and Henle Village, Shaw said. According to Shaw, there was “not a single party,” and the entire scene was very quiet.

Shaw said Lord and Johnson expressed disappointment at the lack of socializing at these two residences.

Lord could not be reached for comment.

<http://www.thehoya.com/news/090707/news1.cfm>

## A & D Highlights

• In preparation for this Thursday’s night football game, the office requests your help in reducing high-risk drinking by promoting Thursday & Friday class assignments. Your instruction can help reinforce responsible decision-making among our students. We appreciate your support! Thank you!

## Get Involved

• Encourage new students to join GAMMA and engage in substance free activities by:

→ Promoting Carolina After Dark

→ Promoting Cocky Thursdays

→ Great Gamecock Tailgate Parties

## GAMMA Highlights

• GAMMA is recruiting motivated, talented, and dedicated students to perform in a theatrical production called Risqué Business. Interested students can contact the A & D Office for details.