State/Local Issue

Abusive and underage college drinking are significant public health problems and they exact an enormous toll on the intellectual and social lives of students on campuses across the United States. Drinking at college has become a ritual that students often see as and is an Integral part of their higher education experience. Many students come to college with established drinking habits and the college environment can exacerbate the problem. Research shows that more than 80% of college students drink alcohol. There are many consequences of underage and abusive drinking which includes the following:

1. Injury or Death
2. Assault and /or sexual abuse
3. Academic Problems
4. Unsafe Sex
5. Alcohol Abuse ad Dependence
6. Drunk Driving

Having some experience with alcohol, certain aspects of college life, such as unstructured time, the widespread availability of alcohol, inconsistent enforcement of underage drinking laws, and limited interactions with parents and other adults, can intensify the problem. The first six weeks of freshman year is an especially vulnerable time for heavy drinking alcohol related consequences because of student expectations and social pressures at the start of the academic year.

Prevention efforts for the University of Richmond include alcohol education and enforcing underage laws. We also collaborate with the local police departments and businesses to reduce underage access to alcohol, and to address violations.

An Alcohol Education and Abuse Prevention Workshop was provided by officers as needed with classes numbered about 30 students per class. The Workshop provides decision making about how alcohol impacts both the individual and larger campus community. Students will gain knowledge of harm and reduction strategies for changing the campus culture as it relates to alcohol use.

Alcohol & Drug Policy

Chemical Health In accordance with federal legislation, known as the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, the University of Richmond is required to communicate the following information regarding the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol to its students and employees. Although most of the policies and programs described on these pages have been in effect for some time, federal regulations stipulate that information about them must be distributed annually.

Each member of the University community is encouraged to make "risk-aware" choices regarding the consumption of alcohol or the use of other psychoactive drugs. Members of the campus community who choose to use such drugs are expected to consider the risks of harm to self, others, and the community-at-large. To mitigate the harmful behavior associated with such drugs, the University has established policies to eliminate the use of illicit drugs and to limit the consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus.

It is our individual responsibility to understand and abide by the regulations as defined by the University, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the federal government governing the use and distribution of alcohol and other drugs. These regulations apply to all members of the University community and its guests and visitors. Persons who infringe upon the rights of others, break the law, conduct themselves in a disorderly manner, or damage university property are accountable for their actions. Such persons are subject to University disciplinary sanctions (up to and including removal from this community) and/or criminal action. Such harmful behavior is absolutely at variance with the mission of the University. Because the University of Richmond strives to achieve a healthy living and learning environment, the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on the University's property, or as a part of its activities, is prohibited.

On a less formal note, those of us involved in student development administration remain concerned about the effects of substance abuse in achieving your full potential as a University student. Though much of the following appears "legal", it should also serve as a reminder that the abuse of drugs and alcohol is both a detriment to you as an individual and to our campus community as a whole. We hope you will take the time to read this important policy.

ALCOHOL POLICY

Members of the campus community and campus guests who choose to consume alcoholic beverages are expected to do so responsibly and in consideration of the consequences to self, others, and the community-at-large. Every individual is expected to recognize the potential for alcohol abuse whenever alcohol is consumed, and that such abuse is absolutely at variance with the mission of the University. To mitigate abuse, the University has established policies and regulations to limit the use of alcohol and to regulate the consumption of such beverages on campus. Persons who infringe upon the rights of others, who conduct themselves in a disorderly manner, or who damage or destroy University property shall be regarded as

irresponsible in their decisions, accountable for their actions, and subject to disciplinary and/or criminal action.

The regulations and practices governing the use of alcoholic beverages apply to all members of the University community, guests and visitors. The primary responsibility for knowing and abiding by the provisions of the University's alcoholic beverage policy rests with each individual.

Regulations for individuals:

1. The use of alcoholic beverages on the campus is expected to be in compliance with federal, state and local laws as well as University policy.
2. Virginia State Law prohibits the purchase, possession, or consumption of beer, wine, or distilled spirits by persons under 21 years of age.
3. Virginia State Law also prohibits the purchase for, or the serving of alcohol to, individuals who are not of legal age for possession or consumption.
4. Failure to comply with policies and guidelines presented in this document or violations of the law, including such activities as disruptive behavior, public intoxication, driving while intoxicated, damage to public or private property, or the use of altered or fraudulent identification cards will result in University action and/or criminal charges.
5. Any individual will be considered in possession of alcohol which may be reasonably associated with him or her. Examples of association include, but are not limited to, the following: any alcohol found within a resident's room or apartment unit will be considered to be associated with the residents of that room/unit, any alcohol being carried or transported by an individual (whether open or closed) will be considered to be associated with the individual carrying the alcohol, and any open container of alcohol resting near an individual may be considered to be in possession of the individual.
6. The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in fraternity lodges, residence hall rooms (not public areas), and University Forest Apartments, as an individual action which is not part of an organized function, is limited to individuals of legal age.
7. Students are expected to have a University of Richmond ID and another age identification document (e.g., driver's license) in their personal possession. A University official, staff member, or designee may request to see age identification from the student if it is suspected that the student is under the legal drinking age or is in the process of or has committed an alcohol policy violation.

Sanctions for Noncompliance

All individuals/organizations/departments/Greek organizations/residence halls/Atlantic and Pacific Houses/University Forest Apartments must be in compliance with the University of Richmond Alcohol Policy, General Policy Statement, and the Procedures and Regulations for Implementation of the Alcohol Policy.

Individuals

1. Underage individuals who are observed possessing or consuming alcoholic beverages will have the beverage confiscated. These individuals may have University and/or criminal charges placed against them for illegal possession and/or consumption. The individual also may be removed from the event.
2. Individuals who provide or serve alcoholic beverages to underage individuals may face University and/or criminal charges. The individual also may be removed from the event.
3. Failure of individuals to follow the Procedures and Regulations for Implementation may result in a minimum of the following sanctions:
    a. All first offenses result in a minimum of being placed on disciplinary warning by the appropriate dean's office, referred to an educational program, and assessed a fine. The fines for the first offenses vary.
    b. All second offenses and subsequent offenses result in stricter sanctions decided upon by the appropriate dean's office.

Fines - First Offenses

- Student consumption of alcohol where the student is under age: $50.00
- Student consumption of alcohol in public where the student is of legal age: $50.00
- Student consumption of alcohol in public where the student is under legal age: $100.00
- Student use or possession of a fraudulent identification card: $100.00
- Underage student found in attendance at a registered or unregistered residence hall or University Forest Apartment event with alcohol: $50.00

Organizations/Departments

All organizations/departments must be in compliance with the University of Richmond Alcohol Policy, General Policy Statement, and the Procedures and Regulations for Implementation of the Alcohol Policy.

1. Failure to follow the Procedures and Regulations for Implementation by organization/departments may result in a minimum of the following sanctions:
    a. First Offense—Immediate termination of the event.
    b. Second Offense—Immediate termination of the event and $200 fine.
    c. Third Offense—Immediate termination of event, $400.00 fine, and loss of privilege to schedule events with alcohol for one calendar year.
    d. Members of the organization/department who were involved in the violation will be required to attend an educational program and pay any costs incurred.
    e. Members of organizations/departments also may be charged with individual alcohol violation(s).
2. The Vice President for Student Development or his/her designee is authorized to impose any of the above-mentioned sanctions.

Men's and Women's Fraternities

The following sanctions are not necessarily in progressive order. The Interfraternity /Panhellenic Councils have the authorization to determine an appropriate course of action including the listed sanctions, based on the severity of each situation. In addition, sanctions may include, but are not limited to, variations of community service, monetary fines, educational programming, etc.

1. Warning—official written or verbal warning notifying individual and/or collective fraternities of a violation; this also includes a four academic weeks probationary status.
2. Social Suspension—suspending social privileges for a determined amount of time. The lodge/ground/facility will be open for fraternity chapter weekly meetings and pledge/associate educational meetings only; this may also include a probationary status determined on a case by case basis.
3. Suspension of Recognition—revocation of the chapter's rush privileges, approval for campus social activities for at least one half year's time due to (a) events or circumstances in substantial violation of this statement, or the Statement of Mutual Responsibilities or (b) reoccurrence or lack of correction of matters which gave rise to a previously issued warning or probation.
4. Recommendation for Revocation of Recognition—revocation of all privileges as a recognized fraternity and termination of all aspects of affiliation with the University due to (a) a major and flagrant failure by an organization to carry out its duties and responsibilities under this statement, or (b) a reoccurrence of or failure to correct matters which give rise to a previously issued suspension of recognition.

Enforcement proceedings

1. The Director of The Center for Student Involvement (formerly Student Activities) or designee or any University Police Officer has the authority to order a fraternity closed for the remainder of the time designated for that event if, in his/her judgment, any of the above violations are occurring or have occurred.
2. The Director of Student Activities or designee (e.g., Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council) is authorized to enforce any or all sanctions.

Sanctions for Individuals

1. All first offenses result in a minimum of being placed on disciplinary warning by the appropriate dean's office, and referral to an alcohol education program. The fines for the offenses vary as described below.
2. All second and subsequent offenses result in stricter sanctions which are to be decided upon by the appropriate dean's office in order to allow the flexibility needed in considering the particular circumstances of each individual case.
3. Example of offenses and sanctions: Student uses or is found in possession of a fraudulent or altered identification card: First offense carries a $100.00 fine, at least being placed on conduct probation.
    a. *Other Offenses Fine*
    b. Underage student found consuming and/or possessing alcohol within a residence hall room or apartment: $50.00
        i. Student of legal age found consuming and/or possessing alcohol in a public area: $50.00
        ii. Student under the legal age found consuming and/or possessing alcohol in a public area: $100.00
        iii. *Sanctions for Private Event with Alcohol Violations*

iv. First violation of event regulations results in a loss of event privileges for six months for all residents of the apartment, minimally being placed on disciplinary warning, and referral to an alcohol education program and a possible fine.

v. Subsequent violations will result in stricter sanctions which are left to the discretion of the appropriate dean's office. Repeated violations could result in eviction from campus.

c. *Sanctions for Noise Related Concerns*

i. Registered Event with Alcohol:

ii. First Warning — Residents will be asked to reduce their noise.

iii. Second Warning — Continuing noise at a registered event will result in the termination of the event, citation for non-compliance, and sanctions for Private Event violations detailed above.

iv. Unregistered Event with Alcohol:

1. Residents will be asked to reduce their noise and the staff member will explore the reasons for the noise. If the alcohol policy is being violated, the event will be terminated and the staff member will file an incident report.

   i. First Offense: Disciplinary Warning, $50.00 fine, Alcohol education, loss of event with alcohol privileges for 6 months.

   ii. Second Offense: Housing Probation, $100.00 fine, Alcohol education, and possible eviction from University Housing.

   iii. Third Offense: Eviction from University Housing and possible Suspension from the University.

d. *Other violations and sanctions*:

i. Offense: Students who lie about their involvement in an alcohol related incident may receive the alcohol violation sanctions and they will be referred to the judicial process.

ii. Offense: Students who give falsified information (i.e., false names or ID cards) may receive the alcohol violation sanctions and they will be referred to the judicial process.