

Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs  
North Dakota State University  
Fargo, North Dakota

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# Final Report

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Submitted to the  
Vice President for Student Affairs  
April 6, 1999

***"Community: Where members are aware that their individual decisions affect others. A place where members are not indifferent toward one another."***

Richard Keeling

## **Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs**

### **Executive Summary**

The following executive summary is an outline of the major points which the Commission would like to highlight from its list of recommendations.

1. Strengthen institutional commitment and provide community leadership to address the misuse of alcohol and drugs on campus and in the community.
2. Formulate a shared vision and action plan linking desired attitudinal and behavioral objectives to corrective strategies which will foster a culture of respect, participation, and achievement among all members of the campus community.
3. Conduct a campus wide survey supplemented by focus group and interview data to assess the nature, extent, and consequence of alcohol and drug misuse.
4. Hire a full-time coordinator who will increase programmatic efforts to raise awareness of and reduce alcohol misuse, to assure continuity and evaluation of such efforts, and to foster a climate of cultural change.

## **Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs Report**

NDSU's Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs was formed in January 1998 by George Wallman, Vice President for Student Affairs. This is a topic that has received much local, regional, and national attention recently including reports of student fatalities on a growing number of University campuses across the country. It is a topic that affects campus life in many ways including academic achievement, social relationships, and individual behavior. It is an issue that is greatly affected by campus culture especially peer influence and campus leaders.

The purposes of the Commission were to: (1) create an understanding and awareness of this topic among commission members; (2) to identify current activities at NDSU that address this topic and (3) to collectively make observations and recommendations to the Vice-President for Student Affairs so they can be discussed with the President and other Vice-Presidents for possible action.

The original Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs included representation from students, faculty, staff and the local community. Charles Peterson agreed to chair the commission. The following students were commissioned: Jennie Bulisco, Wendy Friedig, Jennifer Gieser, April Hanson, Jason Isaacson, Brett Knudson, Beth Leier, Kasey Rae Maddock, Mike Schnell, Tommy Siens, Robin Simms, and Craig Zimprich. The following faculty were commissioned: Judy Ary, Muriel Brown, Charles Peterson, Ayse Sahin, Kathleen Slobin, Kevin Thompson, and Jim Tilton. The following staff were commissioned: Geri Bosch, Laura Chartrand, Peggy Gaynor, Tim Lee, Mark Mauer, Casey Peterson, Kate Tallman, Robb Thibault, Karla Thoennes, and Nona Wood. The following individuals from the local community were commissioned: Sue Andrews (YMCA of NDSU), Mark Doyle (Chubs Pub), Jerry Granmo (Happy Harry's), Nancy Jordheim (Fargo schools/ Alumnus), Dave Rogness (Fargo Police Department), Chris Shiaro (ShareHouse) and Randy Thorson (Old Broadway). Because of staff change the following individuals have replaced original commission members: Michael Harwood for Laura Chartrand and Karen Jones for Kate Tallman. Dustin Mitzel is representing Happy Harry's.

Dr. Richard Keeling, the Director of Health Services at the University of Wisconsin, visited the NDSU community on February 25-26, 1998. Dr. Keeling gave a presentation and workshop for the Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs, and presentations for student leaders and faculty. He is one of the leading experts in the United States on wellness related issues including alcohol abuse/misuse.

A web page was developed to share information with both on-campus and off-campus communities regarding the purpose and progress of the Commission. Information was shared at the Commission's monthly meetings which included but was not limited to: The Literature subcommittee gave a presentation on (1) whether alcohol related ads in the *Spectrum* have increased over the period from 1990-present, (2) alcohol related offenses on campus, and (3) the extent and correlation of binge drinking among area high school seniors. Ron Schneider, Student Counselor at Fargo South High School, discussed issues of concern in the high school setting. Dan Klenow discussed his recommendations for developing student focus groups for the purpose of identifying and defining the secondary effects of alcohol misuse on campus. Tim, an NDSU student and recovering alcoholic, shared his perspectives and experiences regarding alcohol and

how that has impacted him and his campus life. George Wallman, Kate Haugen, and Shari Ellertson gave a brief overview of the new orientation program for incoming freshman and their parents which includes sharing a portion of the Dr. Keeling's video and discussing consequences of binge drinking on campus and keys to academic success. A national live teleconference was held on campus on Friday, November 13, 1998 for the Commission and University administrators involving Universities from all across the United States to discuss problems and share solutions on the topic of Alcohol Abuse & Campus Violence: Rights, Rebellion & Responsibilities. Chris Shiaro distributed materials and presented on the programs and services offered by ShareHouse. Kevin Thompson presented the results of a survey distributed to commission members which revealed their perceptions of the importance and potential impact of the Commission's work to NDSU and what they see as necessary recommendations. Scott Mitchell, Pavak Hall Director, and Nikki Jacobs, Burgum Hall Director, presented information on the Alcohol 101 CD Rom Program and its use on campus.

The charges for the Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAOD) were structured in the form of an outline of questions from the Vice President for Student Affairs. The Commission was divided into subcommittees to address the four major categories listed below (i.e. Literature; Activities and Functions; Resources; and Expert Speakers). The following is the Commission's response to these questions.

### ***I. What do we know from the literature?***

The Literature Subcommittee was charged with gathering materials to better inform Commission members about 1) the nature and scope of binge drinking among college students, 2) factors which predispose students to binge drink, and 3) consequences of binge drinking.

In attempting to satisfy this charge, the Literature Subcommittee has done the following:

**Method:** Examined the scope of alcohol ads in the student newspaper (the *Spectrum*) from 1990 to the present.

**Results:**

1. Estimates of the annual number of alcohol related ads in the *Spectrum* increased from 140 ads in 1990-91 to a high of 459 ads in 1996-97.
2. While alcohol related ads declined during the issues released during 1997-98, the average column inches devoted to alcohol ads increased. Consequently, while alcohol ads were becoming less frequent, the scope of these ads was increasing.

**Method:** Examined the nature and extent of alcohol related arrests on the NDSU campus from 1994-95 to the summer of 1998.

**Results:**

1. The number of arrests for minor in consumption (MIP) increased from 79 in 1994-95 to roughly 171 in 1997-98.
2. The number of open container violations, while relatively infrequent, increased from 8 in 1994-95 to roughly 14 in 1997-98.
3. The number of Driving Under the Influence arrests have actually decreased from 32 in 1994-95 to 19 in 1997-98.
4. The number of students taken to detoxification units increased from 5 in 1994-95 to around 19 in 1997-98.
5. Overall, the number of alcohol related violations among students increased from 119 in 1994-95 to around 204 in 1997-98.

**Method:** Examined the relationship between binge drinking and various characteristics among area high school seniors based on recent survey data.

**Results:**

1. Approximately 46% of area high school seniors report binge drinking in the two weeks preceding the survey. Of the students surveyed, almost 6% reported consuming at least five alcoholic drinks six or more times in the preceding two weeks.
2. Binge drinking is highly associated with grades in school. Roughly two-thirds of binge drinkers report receiving mostly C's and below in school.
3. Binge drinking among high school seniors is associated with future plans. The most frequently cited future plan for binge drinkers was to pursue a trade or vocational school (42%). The least commonly cited plan was to pursue college or a post college degree.
4. Interestingly, when examining national data, college students appear to binge drink at higher levels than non-college students. This represents a reversal from what these individuals experience in high school. This suggests that the college climate is more pertinent to understanding alcohol consumption than the characteristics of individuals.

**Method:** Alcohol Commission members were surveyed to assess the level of their commitment to continuing to serve on the Commission and to assess alternative strategies for addressing binge drinking.

**Results:**

1. Most members were highly interested in continuing to serve on the Commission.
2. Most members were confident that the Commission would arrive at several effective strategies for addressing binge drinking.
3. Most members were somewhat aware of the nature and extent of the binge drinking phenomenon on campus. Most members expressed interest in assessing more specifically, the nature and scope of binge drinking on campus.

## ***II. What activities and functions are present at NDSU that relate to the following elements and are they adequately represented?***

The Activities and Functions Sub-committee was charged with taking a broad look at the NDSU campus to explore what alcohol-related activities and functions are currently a part of the University environment. Eight facets were explored:

1. Awareness and Information
2. Curriculum
3. Peer-based Initiatives
4. Training (for faculty, staff, students, and campus leaders)
5. Support Services
6. Staffing and Resources
7. Policies and Policy Implementation/Enforcement
8. Assessment and Evaluation

### **Awareness and Information**

- During the 1997-1998 academic year the Alcohol Educator (a part-time position filled by Sarah Morrau) supplied the campus with posters and periodic information in the *Spectrum* relating to alcohol. The *Spectrum*, however, also advertises bars and drinking-related activities on a regular basis.
- National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week (NCAAW), an annual campus-wide event held each October, has offered YMCA of NDSU Brown Bag seminars, educational programs, and a campaign to "take the pledge" to abstain from alcohol use for a weekend. No overall coordination or summary information about this week is available.
- During the 1998 new student and family orientation sessions a program on alcohol use as it relates to community was presented. This program will be presented again during the 1999 orientation sessions.
- There is on-going passive programming (e.g. bulletin board information) in residence halls and elsewhere on campus.
- The Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs has been in session from 1998 to present and has raised awareness for its members through various presentations, including Dr. Richard Keeling's visit on campus to kick-off Commission's activities.
- Targeted programming geared for specific audiences (e.g. high-risk groups) have included special topics such as preparing for spring break 1998.

### **Curriculum**

The topic of alcohol and drug use was found to be a part of the curriculum in the following courses. No effort was made by the group to solicit syllabi from faculty.

- *Skills for Academic Success*, UNIV 199
- *Personal and Community Health*, HPER 145
- *Lifetime Fitness and Activities*, HPER 110
- *Writing and Reading I*, English 110 (Includes reading and discussing essays which also serve as a stimulus for writing assignments relating to alcohol abuse)
- *Wellness*, F&N 111
- *Introduction to Sociology*, SOC 112

- Various Psychology classes, including PSYC 212 (*Psychological Aspects of Drug Use and Abuse*)
- Various Criminal Justice classes

### **Peer-based Initiatives**

Peer-based initiatives to address some of the alcohol issues on campus were found to include:

- student-led initiatives such as residence hall programs (especially during NCAAW in October)
- training programs with an alcohol-related component for residence hall staff and Orientation Leaders
- the alcohol education program offered to students who violate the alcohol policy (student actors present scenarios to stimulate discussion)
- programming and awareness campaigns led by the Peer Health Educators, a fairly new program sponsored by the Student Health Center
- fraternity and sorority leaders presenting peer programming in their respective houses
- peer advising and direction provided by Resident Assistants, residence hall Peer Mentors, Orientation Leaders, Agriculture Ambassadors, and Peer Mentors such as in the College of Human Development and Education

### **Training for Faculty, Staff, Students, and Campus Leaders**

Alcohol and drug training appeared to be very minimal.

- The training of a faculty member and several staff at NDSU in On Campus Talking about Alcohol (OCTAA) was supported by the Division of Student Affairs in December 1997. The subcommittee was unable to identify other training for faculty.
- The training for some Student Affairs staff occurs without any centralized integration of which the group is aware.
- The training for campus leaders is not centralized with reportedly wide variation in practices in various student organizations (e.g., Saddle and Sirloin have some "dry" functions and others where alcohol is available).

### **Support Services**

Support services include screening, intervention with high-risk drinkers, support groups, and counseling and referral programs.

- Examples of screening programs are the National Alcohol Screening Day (April 8, 1999), the first national screening day which will be conducted by the Center for Counseling and Personal Growth. Chris Shiaro is a chemical dependency counselor from ShareHouse whose time is contributed by that agency to the University. Chris does screenings with students who are referred to her to see if they need a formal drug/alcohol evaluation. This formal evaluation work is referred off-campus either to ShareHouse or another community agency depending on the student's preference.
- Informal interventions by residence hall staff take place if they notice problem behavior relating with the use of alcohol or drugs.
- The Counseling Center staff suggest screenings for students who exhibit signs of alcohol/drug difficulties.

- There is often police intervention with high-risk drinkers if they are driving or in any other way show dangerous behavior.
- Support group efforts over the years have included establishment of AA, AlAnon, and Adult Children of Alcoholic groups but have had little success. Problems have included the nature of the academic year with people leaving, too small a number of interested students to support a group, and lack of consistent leadership.
- Electronic services on campus include such programs as "Alcohol 101", a computerized interactive CD Rom available at this time through Residence Life. List serve information is available regarding higher education and alcohol/drug topics.

### **Policies and Policy Implementation/Enforcement**

- The Vice President for Student Affairs office disseminates policy information regarding alcohol/drug misuse. This policy and procedures are widely distributed in each semester's schedule. The Residence Life Department as well as other Student Affairs staff contribute to the policy development and implementation of the policy.
- The police role in enforcement is violation oriented as they enforce the law. The University police relate, however, with students differently than city police. They feel strongly about their educational mission and try to use infractions as an educational experience as well as an enforcement one.
- Public safety is a focus of campus police work. They are concerned about date rape and work together with Counseling Center. Efforts have been initiated during this present year to begin a self-defense course. The officer who was working with this, however, has recently left the campus police force.
- According to Dave Rogness, Fargo Police Department, there is coordination with campus and off-campus police departments by way of shared police reports/action with campus and Fargo police for follow-up.

### **Assessment and Evaluation**

The subcommittee was unable to report on assessment and evaluation as very little information was known concerning needs assessments, instrumentation, quantitative and qualitative approaches, research findings, and dissemination.

### ***III. What national and local resources are available?***

The Resource Subcommittee gathered information on national resources such as the BACCHUS (Boosting Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students) and GAMMA (Greeks Advocating the Mature Management of Alcohol) are two organizations that are student driven. The organizations are related, and share the same web site and products. These organizations are a peer education network that is internationally affiliated with peer education groups that focus on alcohol abuse prevention and other student health and safety issues. NDSU's Peer Health Educators have been a chapter of BACCHUS since February of 1998. Karen Jones is the staff advisor for this group. NDSU currently has no GAMMA membership. GAMMA does however have a strong Midwest regional chapter.

NDSU resources currently available include the "Alcohol 101" which is an interactive computer program that was released for use in the fall of 1998. This program allows students to do "virtual experimentation" at their own pace and in their own time frame. The program is very comprehensive in nature, and is able to provide specific information for each individual. Alcohol 101 has been made available to every University free of charge through funding by the Century Council. The Department of Residence Life is currently implementing the program in the residence halls, but does not have the resources necessary to make full use of the potential of the program.

Campus programs run by the Center for Student Counseling appear to be very limited in scope, and it does not seem plausible that anything more extensive would take place with the existing resources. In particular:

- there are no programs in place to identify and reach those students who are "experimenting and indulging" but aren't addicts, per se
- there are some programs in place to address alcohol related issues, but they are very limited in scope
- some programs that existed in the past have been discontinued (even though they were fairly limited to begin with) due to a lack of resources.

At the moment there is only one person who performs alcohol screenings on campus. She is a chemical issues counselor for Sharehouse and puts in 15 hours a week on campus. Besides the scarcity of this resource the office for this person (due to space considerations) is in the women's residence hall. She is directly available to over 350 freshman women and 500 freshman men.

A part-time position (17 hours a week) in the Counseling Center was funded by VP Wallman and Residence Life as a "prevention information publicist." She worked in conjunction with the *Spectrum*, Residence Life, student groups to disseminate information (table tents, dorm presentations, *Spectrum* ads). This position is vacant at this time.

In the event of a student who comes to the Counseling Center for help with alcohol issues, with its current resources, the Center would evaluate the student and refer them for specialized treatment. There are a negligible number of solicitations for help at the Center. The majority of the solicitations that do come in are from students who have received a DUI and need to be referred for an evaluation, as opposed to students who feel they need help.

The Center, together with Residence Life, also runs an Alcohol Education workshop. The audience for the workshop are students who have violated the campus alcohol regulations. The workshop is required for them and takes two hours on one evening. The Residence Life and counseling staff facilitate discussions. While the mandatory aspect of the workshop makes for a somewhat disgruntled audience, they do receive many positive evaluations. Some comments which indicate the kinds of issues our students deal with include: "it is helpful to see how stupid I look when I am drunk", "I could use more excuses for how to say no".

No information was provided on any athletic mentoring programs currently in use. The subcommittee assumes that there are no such programs in place at this time.

#### ***IV. Possible national experts/speakers***

The sub-committee for Experts and Speakers discussed the need and potential impact of having alcohol and drug-related experts and speakers on campus on a regular basis and what impact that could have on the problem and the culture at NDSU. The sub-committee felt that expert speakers addressing some of the broader general issues of decision making, peer pressure, healthy choices, keys to academic success would be as important as having someone speak directly about drugs and alcohol. It would also be important to allow the selection of the expert speakers to be as student driven as possible, keeping in mind the need to present a consistent message and the need to address campus culture as a part of the problem. Finally, there will be a need to explore creative and effective ways of attracting students to such events.

The sub-committee also felt that there are, at times, experts or speakers who are sponsored by various groups both on and off campus, where the campus and/or local Fargo Moorhead community may not be aware that these events are occurring. A coordinated community effort should be established to share information about expert speakers who come to NDSU or our local Fargo-Moorhead community so that information, resources, and participation can be shared.

Finally, it was recognized that various offices and individuals on campus and in the Fargo Moorhead community have access to information about experts and speakers who could potentially come to campus to address these issues. NDSU should consider developing a clearinghouse of this information on potential expert speakers which could be utilized by NDSU and the entire Fargo Moorhead community.

#### ***V. Given the information from I-III what observations do you have?***

Like other Universities, alcohol abuse and binge drinking has become so much a part of the culture at NDSU it has become almost transparent to us, almost an expected part of the University experience, and therefore not thought to be a problem by many (i.e. students, faculty, parents). Indifference to this problem is high, particularly among students. NDSU needs to find a way to change this expectation and this culture by creating and implementing new ideas and strategies for approaching this problem. Future efforts should focus away from an emphasis on the individual, the incident, the statistics, to more of an emphasis on changing the culture, changing attitudes, and changing the traditions and customs that have led to this pattern of drinking and drug abuse. A more holistic approach to student learning should be incorporated where we take interest in and care about the entire student and their entire experiences on campus and foster a learning environment that promotes student success both inside and outside the classroom. The ultimate goal would be to focus on building a sense of community on campus, where people care about each other, and where everyone takes responsibility for their own actions and behavior and attempts to contribute to a positive community environment. Through this new focus, NDSU would create a campus atmosphere which provides a safer, healthier, more successful environment for students to learn.

It is apparent that NDSU cannot tackle this problem alone. This is a community problem which needs a community solution. NDSU must continue its efforts to bring everyone to the table including students, faculty, staff, and administrators on campus, as well as get the off-campus community involved in working together to find solutions to this problem. NDSU needs to continue to be pro-active in keeping this topic alive among students and in striving to further increase the understanding and awareness of this problem both on and off campus. Institutional commitment and leadership need to be established at NDSU to properly address this issue long-term. This needs to start with the President's Cabinet so that the entire community both on and off campus hear a clear, consistent message that places this issue on the forefront of NDSU's priorities and plans for the future. These messages need to be woven into the fabric of the institution with a shared vision among students, faculty, staff, and administrators related to developing an on-going process to address this issue on campus. Student involvement and leadership must be identified and developed and will be crucial to long-term success of any culture change on campus.

The literature in our field and the presentations given by Dr. Richard Keeling indicate that the abuse and misuse of alcohol are imbedded in the culture of the campus community. In order to address this need we need to encourage a campus community similar to the kind of community described by Keeling: "*Where members are aware that their individual decisions affect others. A place where members are not indifferent toward one another.*" This should provide the conceptual framework to address our concerns about alcohol. In addition, we should do something to offset the fact that we are being out-marketed by ads and commercials. NDSU should look for ways to counter this through the use of materials developed elsewhere or the creation of new materials that help change the culture of the campus toward binge and underage drinking. Resources have been limited to address this concern. In order to sustain any kind of effort related to our alcohol concerns, staff time, and operating expenses need to be provided. The literature asks college presidents and top administrators to take a stand in relation to campus alcohol concerns. It is recommended that the President incorporate a visible statement in this area and that continued activities reflect this position.

### **We envision a community in which . . .**

- ▶ NDSU works proactively with the Fargo-Moorhead community on the societal issue of alcohol and other drug abuse. This is not an isolated college or university issue.
- ▶ NDSU routinely collects data on the extent of alcohol and other drug problems on campus and makes this information available to all faculty, staff members, and students.
- ▶ Every NDSU community member is informed that abuse of alcohol and other drugs is an excellence in education and academic retention issue, not just a student affairs' issue.
- ▶ Institutional support is available to increase the amount of contact between students and faculty outside the academic classroom in informal settings.
- ▶ Institutional support is available to increase the type and amount of alternative alcohol free activities such as more frequently scheduled movie nights with multiple and later start times geared to the typical student's schedule.
- ▶ The institution offers subsidized food services to increase student, faculty, and staff use of University dining facilities during the evening and night hours.
- ▶ A high level of alcohol tolerance is recognized as a matter of concern, rather than a badge of honor.
- ▶ Students care more about obtaining help for fellow students who are acutely intoxicated, than they do about the possibility of "getting their friends into trouble."
- ▶ A designated driver means a sober driver, not the person who is "least drunk."
- ▶ Students no longer believe that the more they drink, the more fun they are having.
- ▶ Social drinking is defined as one drink per day for women, and no more than two drinks per day for men.
- ▶ Nonalcoholic beverages are available in the same quantities as alcoholic beverages at any student organization function at which alcohol is to be served to students 21 years of age or older.
- ▶ Providing alcohol to minors is viewed as a violation of law and a possible blot on a student's permanent criminal record, rather than "just doing a friend a harmless favor."
- ▶ Students and their parents are strongly encouraged to have direct communication with one another concerning their students' use/abuse of alcohol and/or other drugs.
- ▶ Alcohol advertising is not the primary source of revenue for the *Spectrum*.
- ▶ Every column inch of alcohol advertising is matched with alcohol and other drug counter-advertising.
- ▶ That alcohol and other drug issues be infused throughout the curricula whenever possible and appropriate, for example:
  - A. Every student of economics receives information concerning the economic impact of alcohol on society.
  - B. Every student of marketing, advertising, and communication is sensitive to the relationship between alcohol advertising and prominent product placement practices, and the impact of these practices on the creation of a community that tolerates, and even glorifies, the illegal and/or excessive use of alcohol, and the association of alcohol with sports and other activities requiring a high degree of hand-eye coordination.
  - C. Every student of hotel, motel, restaurant management is informed about social host liability and the potential impact on their futures, both personally and professionally.

**We envision a community in which . . . [continued]**

- D. Every student planning a career in teaching and/or counseling receives education concerning how to recognize when an individual may be experiencing alcohol-related problems and/or receive other information concerning alcohol and other drug prevention and intervention strategies appropriate to the target population with which he/she will be working.
- E. Every student planning a career in criminal justice or with the U. S. military recognizes the potential harm to his/her future career upon receiving an alcohol or other drug-related citation or arrest.
- ▶ Every student learns the relationship between alcohol quantity and frequency choices and the health consequences resulting from the abuse of alcohol.
- ▶ Every student learns the relationship between their personal family history with respect to alcohol and other drugs, and the impact of those family histories upon themselves and their futures.
- ▶ Students may request special living accommodations in substance-free facilities in which all residents have pledged to live substance-free.
- ▶ Stiff student behavior sanctions are assigned to students who provide alcohol to others and/or who provide a place for other students to use substances illegally.
- ▶ Fraternities and sororities are strongly encouraged to renew their efforts to self-police their living facilities and all practices related to alcohol and other drugs and their organizations.
- ▶ Any violations of University policies and/or local, state, or federal laws pertaining to alcohol and other drugs are addressed, regardless of whether those violations or offenses occur on or off campus, when that information is made available to NDSU.
- ▶ All student events at which alcohol is served are to be cash bar wine and beer-only affairs at which drinks are served by bartenders trained in the lawful and appropriate service of alcohol, and that no more than one drink is sold at one time to any individual who has demonstrated proof of age that he/she is 21 years of age or older, and that service be limited to no more than one drink per hour per individual.

**We envision a community in which we no longer . . .**

- ▶ Permit alcohol beverage advertisements, endorsements, or promotions with any NDSU activities sponsored by any NDSU entity, on or off campus.
- ▶ Sell shot glasses and beer mugs stamped with NDSU's crest and/or mascot in the Varsity Mart, nor sell any other merchandise that associates the selling of NDSU's name in conjunction with alcohol and/or alcohol-related paraphernalia.
- ▶ Allow any student organization to host BYOB parties.
- ▶ Permit kegs at any social functions held or sponsored by any student organization.
- ▶ Allow drinking games of any kind in association with any University activities under severe University penalties.
- ▶ Allow unlimited guests to be invited to any student organization function and/or facility at which alcohol will be served (for instance, participation in fraternity and sorority events should not exceed the safety occupancy limits as established by the Fargo Fire Department).

## **VI. What recommendations do you have?**

### **1. Leadership**

The future success of addressing misuse and abuse of alcohol and other drugs on campus will require commitment and involvement from key leaders among students, faculty, staff, and administration. A commitment must first be established by the President of NDSU and his Cabinet so that this issue is perceived both on and off campus as a University priority. A shared vision, consistent messages, and implementation action steps and strategies must be established among the leadership of the students, faculty, staff, and administration regarding this issue. Leadership will be needed to keep this topic alive long-term, to provide the necessary resources, and to create an atmosphere of an institutional commitment to change. Student leadership will be crucial to the long-term success of any future culture change on campus.

### **2. Resources**

The University will need to invest adequate resources in order to keep this topic alive among students, faculty, staff, and administration and to find creative new solutions to the problem of misuse and abuse of alcohol and other drugs on campus. The University should hire a full-time Coordinator to continue its efforts of increasing awareness, understanding, and education of this issue on campus. Financial resources for supporting curriculum changes, research, expert speakers, *Spectrum* advertising, and alcohol-free alternative activities on and off campus will also be needed.

### **3. Education**

The University will need to continue its effort toward educating the on and off campus communities to increase awareness and understanding of the problems associated with the misuse and abuse of alcohol and other drugs and the culture changes needed within the community to address these problems. The University needs to establish a clear message to the community regarding this issue related to student campus life and consistently communicate this message to the various University constituents both on and off campus via: curriculum offerings; orientation sessions for students and parents; statements on course syllabi; campus and community expert speakers; *Spectrum* advertising; the media; alumni and friends of the University; and official University bulletins and policy manuals. The University should place a strong emphasis and effort to incorporating students in the educational process so that students act as peer educators in educating other students to the issues related to use of alcohol and other drugs.

### **4. Community Involvement**

The misuse and abuse of alcohol and other drugs is a community problem that requires a community solution. The University will need to build program connections both on and off campus and develop collaborative community partners who are willing to combine forces to identify creative ways of solving this important social problem. It will need to find ways to engage individuals and organizations on campus to fully integrate the desired substance abuse initiatives and alcohol abuse prevention efforts throughout the entire University. The University will need to pro-actively solicit the on-going support and involvement of the various internal and external constituents including: students, faculty, staff, administration,

individual academic units, fraternities, residence life, student health services, counseling center, law enforcement, elementary and secondary schools, parents, local beverage dealers, business and community leaders, and others to assist it in finding and implementing solutions. The University should also work with area high school administrators and local law enforcement in establishing cooperative efforts to address binge drinking in area schools.

## **5. Research**

The University should continue its efforts to further study the problem of misuse and abuse of alcohol and other drugs on campus. In addition, it should establish a process for evaluating the impact and effectiveness of any education and intervention programs that are implemented on and off campus. The University should also take advantage of opportunities through competitive grantsmanship for procuring extramural funding from federal or private sources to support its research efforts. The University should conduct further studies among its students to determine the nature, extent, and consequences of binge drinking on campus as well as to examine the influence of various factors in contributing to binge drinking, including the effect of alcohol related advertising in the *Spectrum*. The University should also continue monitoring the level of alcohol related offenses on and off campus. In addition, the University should explore new ways to address binge drinking in the community among students attending secondary schools.