

Campus Community Coalition Steering Committee Update

Proposal from the planning meeting held on August 28, 2008

The Campus Community Coalition Steering Committee held a planning session on August 28, 2008 to review and discuss the Coalition's priorities, mission, and structure. The Steering Committee proposes the following for the Coalition:

Priority Areas

Focus on issues that are of highest priority to the campuses and community.

The Steering Committee assessed issues affecting the relationship between Bellingham area colleges and the greater community, Twelve general issues were identified, discussed, and prioritized as follows:

Issue	Rank
1. Safety issues (pedestrian/bicycle safety; alcohol-related downtown/campus/neighborhood safety issues; policies and procedures regarding violence and/or emergencies)	23
2. Noise related to parties	14
3. Need for formal consistent communication re: violations and other issues; colleges' code of conduct does not extend off campus	9
4. Public alcohol consumption by students	8
5. Litter/garbage at rentals	6
6. Lack of affordable housing off campus; housing restrictions re: number of people living together	6
7. Barriers to student engagement in neighborhoods	5
8. Bars that promote high risk drinking	4
9. Central Business District noise issues	2
10. Vandalism/property damage	1
11. Lack of parking, too many cars near WWU campus	0
12. Fast/unsafe driving by students	0

The highest priority areas will be the focus of further assessment and planning.

Mission Statement

Revise the Coalition's mission statement to reflect the broadening scope of the Coalition's work and to be more inclusive of all local institutions of higher education.

The Steering Committee considered the priority areas, Coalition strengths and weaknesses, and campus and community opportunities and challenges as it reviewed the mission statement. Given these considerations, the Committee proposes the following changes to the Coalition's mission statement:

PROPOSED CHANGES:

The mission of the Campus Community Coalition is to promote working relationships and communication ~~between~~ AMONG the campusES and community ~~by striving~~ to enhance shared

responsibility THROUGH COLLABORATIVE EDUCATION AND PROBLEM-SOLVING, WHICH WILL prevent and address problems related to student alcohol misuse, and contribute to the health, and safety, AND QUALITY OF LIFE of the entire community.

PROPOSED REVISED MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of the Campus Community Coalition is to promote working relationships and communication among the campuses and community to enhance shared responsibility through collaborative education and problem-solving which will contribute to the health, safety, and quality of life of the entire community.

Structure

Make several adjustments to the Coalition’s structure and how its work is carried out:

- The Steering Committee would be more active in its advisory role. Using a clear set of criteria, 8-10 steering committee members would be selected (a slightly smaller group than in the past).
- Relevant people/organizations would be convened as needed as ad hoc work groups for each priority issue. The groups would help assess needs and issues, set goals, and plan and implement activities to meet those goals.
- Coordination would continue to be supported primarily by WWU, focusing on brokering relationships, convening stakeholders, facilitating communication, identifying issues and needs, and planning and implementing activities.

Campus Community Coalition

