

Looking ahead: the future work of the CCC

I) What aspects of the Coalition's current work should be continued?

(Members were asked to indicate their **top five** choices. Fifty-one members responded.)

Current work	Number of Coalition members who indicated among top 5
Recurring late night programs that are smaller but continue throughout the year	30
Bellingham Police Department enforcement of underage drinking laws and loud parties	30
Let's Talk Forum to discuss the issues facing students and long-term residents living together in Bellingham's neighborhoods	29
Think Locally – Act Neighborly Doorknockers that provide information about getting to know your neighbors, keeping parties safe and legal, and possible alcohol-related citations	25
Fall Late Night line up of large-scale events	25
Off-Campus WWU: A Student Road Map to Neighborhood Living website to educate about renting, being a good neighbor, safe and legal parties, and alcohol-related citations	23
Neighborhood Community Service Alternative that requires people charged with Minor in Possession of alcohol to complete 2 hours of neighborhood service	20
Letter to Rental Property Owners from CCC and Neighborhood Associations that encourages owners to promote renters' "neighborliness"; reviews city ordinances regarding parking, litter, and noise; and provides information about Block Watch and other resources	18
Liquor Control Board enforcement of alcohol sales and underage drinking laws	16
Educational ads regarding alcohol-related citations and their consequences	14
Neighborhood Service Learning Projects that expand WWU courses and volunteer activities that focus on neighborhood service	13
"Connect with Your Neighbors" ads in the Western Front announcing neighborhood association meetings, work parties, and other events	10
Neighborhood Mediation Program that trains students and long term neighbors together to address neighborhood conflicts and promote conflict resolution and mediation.	7

2) What NEW strategies should the Coalition pursue in the next 3-5 years?

(Not all members responded to this question.)

Relationship building between students, residents and enforcement personnel

- Off-campus outreach should focus on community building
- Any ways to bring students and residents actively together
- It's not new, but I think there's a lot of value in bringing people together to meet/talk/share
- Work with the neighborhood associations and City of Bellingham to have events within the neighborhood
- Meeting/BBQ/feed or event with Bellingham Police Department that would engage and inform students about consequences. Would also give students the opportunity to see "human" side of PBD staff and officers.
- More focus on dialogue with students and police and neighbors—support neighbor gathering
- Larger event aimed at connecting neighbors and students in the beginning of the year
- I think a new focus should be on the rights of students as members of the neighborhood. I see the point of non-student residents wanting peace and quiet, etc. but some compromise seems necessary if they expect respect from the students—by disregarding that aspect of college culture, they aren't treating students like equal neighbors. Maybe some work on that—student rights, etc. is necessary
- Continuation of Let's Talk Forums focusing on the big issues (parties)
- Let's Talk Forum should happen more than just once
- Let's Talk Forums in dorms the spring before they move off campus
- Let's Talk Forum
- Effort in communicating both issues and consequences
- Provide opportunities/or law enforcement/students to connect early in time at Western (non-confrontational)

Integrating CCC programs into WWU's student services and academic programs

- More information to students before they arrive
- Use Summerstart to educate students on off-campus/community issues
- Introduce aspects during Summerstart, Transitions...
- Support Mark Young's idea about providing information at registration
- Make students aware early (at the time of admission) of this program. WWU should be known as a school which does not tolerate breaking the laws relative to drinking
- Identify students who live off campus via registration. Provide off campus housing info!
- Have a program during new student orientation, i.e., Let's Talk (for all freshmen and transfers)
- Start educating students as soon as they start at WWU while still living on campus.
- Residence Hall "capstone" experience re: neighborhood
- Classes offering academic credits for neighborhood involvement, like board membership, volunteer activities and other civic activism (more than just attendance and observation)
- I would like to see a change in curriculum to add classes that would be required regarding "life" and its responsibilities, i.e. "being a good neighbor," "protecting your credit," etc.
- Tie aspects into an internship or class to keep strategies going despite lack of funding
- Involve more students through classes like Carmen's [Civil Discourse as Engaged Learning]—ask them for ideas to get them involved
- Education is a positive way to reach the parties involved. So, the [Off-Campus WWU] on-line course is a good plan.
- I like the idea that the [Off-Campus WWU] website would be integrated into some class (ask for student involvement and how could it be improved)
- Off-Campus WWU: Putting broader/stronger "teeth" into the website re: students moving into neighborhoods—going back to the original plan to make it an online course, some sort of "requirement" of students.

- Episodic partying/drinking is one thing. Excessive drinking that leads to dependence/addiction is a major concern for a number of reasons. My personal/professional interest is the health impact of excessive alcohol ((/drug) intake. At U.C. Berkeley, we used to send ED staff to speak periodically to meet with the Students for Responsible Drinking group to discuss the health and other impacts of drinking, driving, etc.
- A lot of what we do is educate after a party or a person is cited. Instead we should look to educate, attending forums, or being involved in community organizations before a citation sets the rest in motion

Consequences for offenders:

- Use the student judicial system to provide sanctions against the students who get in trouble with the law
- Western needs to be involved more in enforcement—off-campus behavior should affect students with consequences.
- Creation of community impact panel or forum. Attendance required by persons who are cited for alcohol/alcohol-related offenses
- Let's Talk Forum: make these a requirement for repeat MIP students and repeat landlords/property managers
- Let's Talk Forum—a mandate for students that get violations. Treat it like a fine if possible and if it does not violate the students' rights
- Develop a format in which violators are required to attend Let's Talk Forum or other events around positive community building.
- Require offenders to attend Let's Talk Forums
- For students who have multiple alcohol incidents on campus/residence halls add a requirement of attendance to "community impact" panel
- Guest speaker (or panel) of past cited people for perspective and question and answer period
- Victim impact panel—community service option
- I like the idea of a community impact forum
- Community service obligation?
- Neighborhood based community service aspects
- Involve offenders more in neighborhoods like parks work crews
- Increased creation of community service alternatives for students receiving MIPs and also other alcohol related offenses
- Continue education of students as to the penalties of their behavior

Enforcement

- Enforcement
- All educational work is valuable as long as the enforcement is available to support it.
- Continue enforcement efforts (party patrol/liquor laws). Efforts are only effective while they are ongoing. As soon as programs stop, past effectiveness does not continue. There is no carry-over.
- Overtime for BPD enforcement efforts
- Party patrol on additional weekends that are not predictable.

Alternative programming for students

- Programs on campus should focus on alternatives to drinking, safe behaviors.
- Recurring late night programs: this would be a good idea under any circumstances— CCC shouldn't be responsible for creating/sustaining these programs.
- Constant options/alternatives to going off campus, such as the LateNight events
- More recreation for students on and off campus.
- Concerts and movies on campus (with free parking?)
- Dances

- Sponsorship of non-alcohol based group activities off campus: dance & food; movies; study groups; discussion groups; BBQ; collection (litter/trash); volunteer (trees)
- Coordinate with Bellis Fair Mall, movie theaters, etc. to offer late night events for students who live off campus
- Healthy alternatives and activities to promote wellness and exercise: Group Bicycle/Walk/Hike/Run
- Help with food costs for Late Night programs

Increase promotion of programs

- Presentations to all neighborhood association meetings
- Media coverage
- Doorknockers
- Student surveys to measure any or all aspects to see what was reaching them or what would
- Seek a way to connect to “outside the choir” as opposed to “preaching to the choir” (“Slumlords,” students who get citations, the police officers who have a bad attitude)
- Promote Off-Campus WWU in ways that attract students: contests with “rewards” (gift certificates for restaurants, grocery stores)
- Expand the web-based efforts to include an interactive “test” for new students. The test would raise awareness and educate students about their role in the community. Perhaps completion of the test would provide a reward—password for a free pizza, or discounted food
- Work with ADCAS [WWU’s Alcohol and Drug Consultation and Assessment Services] to develop packet of information for students living off campus and receive off-campus citation or who may move off campus

Increase partnerships and community collaboration

- Encourage the WWU department to coordinate programs with neighborhood associations and the City of Bellingham such as recreation, planning and economics
- If violation numbers support it, partner with Whatcom Community College in education programs; also high school
- It’s time to approach the leadership of WWU, Whatcom Community College and Bellingham Technical College to fully fund the CCC. We need to move away from grants to run the program and use it to strengthen the CCC. I encourage the Liquor Control program to spend more time educating the community, and enforcement
- We are in early stages of planning brief interventions for persons presenting to the Emergency Department at St. Joseph Hospital. Should there be consideration for partnering/research with WWU?
- How has the work with the hospitality industry and individuals been furthered or continued?
- Possibly network with RUAD [Reducing Underage Drinking program] to connect at the state level

Other suggestions

- Talk with alumni and their soon-to-be new positions re: off-campus, targeted marketed events at restaurants, rec. facilities, etc.
- Increase restrictions on alcohol advertising/marketing (zoning laws?)
- Also, maybe the Coalition could look at the late night transportation options, or lack thereof, so students can continue to be safe