

COALITION UPDATE

WINTER 2005

GRANT AWARDS AFFIRM AND NOURISH WORK OF CAMPUS COMMUNITY COALITION

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The Campus Community Coalition, recently received **two highly competitive awards** – one federal and one state – that will advance the work of the Coalition. Pat Fabiano, Director of WWU's Prevention and Wellness Services, which serves as the administrative home of the two grants said, "We are very pleased about these awards because they give us several years to work together and plan for the long term sustainability of the Coalition."

National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Award

The National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) awarded WWU \$787,939 to use an evidence-based environmental prevention strategy to build a safer and healthier campus community that influences the "culture of drinking." One of the central

grant aims is the Neighborhoods Engaging with Students (NEST) Project. The NEST project seeks to develop ways for students to be more involved in and accountable to their neighborhoods.

Lara Welker, Coalition Coordinator, stated that the

"NEST Project is generating excitement because it offers the opportunity for students and long-term residents to get to know each other as people and to build community together."

WWU is one of only seven Universities nationwide to receive the NIAAA grant.

Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Award

The WA State Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (DASA) awarded the Campus Community Coalition \$69,200 to support its activities. This grant focuses on intensifying enforcement efforts

in order to reduce underage drinking. Increased enforcement of underage drinking laws has been identified as a "best practice" in prevention. Enforcement

increases student accountability and expresses the seriousness of the community's commitment to address underage drinking.

Both NIAAA and DASA grants will also support the enhancement of an alcohol-free campus culture by stimulating collaboration to expand late-night activities on campus, especially for first- and second- year students.

GATHERING COMMUNITY INPUT ON NEST PROJECT

During the month of December, Coalition staff held several meetings to gather input on which NEST projects would be most successful at involving students in neighborhoods. Students, neighborhood representatives, and the Coalition's Neighborhood

Education and Case Study work groups were most enthusiastic about these four projects:

1. "Transition to Off-Campus Living," an on-line course educating students about off-campus living.
2. Neighborhood Community Service sanctioned by the City

Attorney's Office.

3. Neighborhood-based service learning projects as a part of WWU Courses.
4. A conflict resolution program involving students and long-term neighbors.

UPCOMING MEETING:

Friday, May 20, 2005

11:45 am to 1:30 pm

Western Washington University

Fairhaven College Courtyard room

LUNCH PROVIDED

RSVP 650-4028 or
Katrina.Schaeffer@wwu.edu

GETTING CONNECTED

STUDENTS ENGAGE IN CIVIL DISCOURSE WITH THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY COALITION

Dr. Carmen Werder challenges WWU students with "Action Projects" in her communications course on civil discourse

The Coalition recently collaborated with WWU Communications professor **Dr. Carmen Werder** by offering an action project for her course, "Civil Discourse as Engaged Learning."

The goal of the action project is to increase student understanding of the diverse perspectives about student alcohol misuse, and how it affects Bellingham neighborhoods.

Students interviewed a variety of Coalition members, including law enforcement officers, neighborhood association leaders, bar owners, and WWU Administrators.

Students also attended quarterly

Campus Community Coalition meetings to observe the Coalition in action.

Student **Lauren Anderson** reflected, "My visit to the Campus Community Coalition meeting really did broaden my idea of what civil discourse could be."

Students observed that, within the Campus Community Coalition, "what people actually think about students is positive for the most part, though most people interviewed believe that everyone else's perceptions are negative."

The students also noted that the behaviors of a minority of students

affect the perceptions of students in general, or as they framed it, "one bad apple ruins the bunch."

They concluded that increased communication and positive interactions would help to promote peaceful relationships between students and long-term neighbors.

At the February Coalition meeting, **Jessica Ribera** stated that she thinks students do not realize the financial consequences that an underage drinking violation can have on their life. She said that more information about these consequences could help decrease underage drinking.

JESSICA RIBERA, THINKS STUDENTS NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT CONSEQUENCES



Coalition member in action: Roosevelt Neighborhood Association member **Richard Maneval** participates in WWU's Teaching Learning Academy. The Teaching-Learning Academy is a forum for the scholarship of teaching and learning, and brings together a broad spectrum of perspectives from across campus. Would you like to hear about his experience? Contact Richard at rjmaneval@earthlink.com.

Coalition member in action: Samish Neighborhood Block Watch Captain **Dick Conoboy** says that his block has been successful at curbing loud parties by calling 911, talking with neighbors who have the parties, and contacting rental property owners. For more information, contact Dick at riton@comcast.net.

THANK YOU LIEUTENANT DAVE DOLL

We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to Bellingham Police Department, **Lieutenant Dave Doll** for his tireless efforts on behalf of the Campus Community Coalition since becoming a member in 2002.

As supervisor of the Bellingham Police Department Party Patrol, Lt. Doll was instrumental in facilitating contracts between WWU and the Bellingham Police Department for grant-funded support of the Party

Patrol. He also collected alcohol related student arrest data, and ensured the accuracy of information about alcohol laws for a variety of Campus Community Coalition publications.

Lt. Doll's commitment and cheerful attitude will be missed, as he transitions out of his role as Party Patrol supervisor and into his new role as Director of Communications

for the Bellingham Police What-Com 911 Dispatch Service.

Many thanks, Lt. Doll!

We would also like to extend a warm welcome to **Lt. Scott Snider**, who assumed supervision of the Party Patrol in December. We look forward to a positive and productive collaboration with our newest partner from the Bellingham Police Department.

BEST WISHES LT DAVE DOLL



ENFORCEMENT

IMPROVED PUBLICITY OF ENFORCEMENT TO DETER OFF-CAMPUS

Plans are underway to increase the enforcement of underage drinking laws and off-campus parties.

The Coalition's Enforcement work group recently brought together representatives from the University Police Department, Bellingham Police Department, Bellingham Planning Department, Whatcom County Sheriff's Office, Bellingham City Attorney's Office, WWU Judicial

Affairs, and the WA State Liquor Control Board.

The group discussed ways to work together to increase publicity of enforcement. Research shows that increased publicity magnifies the impact of enforcement efforts.

They also discussed how the Campus Community Coalition might act as a resource for rental property owners and Bellingham City Council to establish an effective mechanism to address "party houses" that are an ongoing source of disturbance.

LATE NIGHT PROGRAMMING

COALITION DRIVES INCREASE IN LATE NIGHT PROGRAMMING

Energy and enthusiasm is building to expand late-night alcohol-free programs on WWU's campus.

WWU department heads from Prevention and Wellness Services, Viking Union, Wade King Student Recreation Center, Residence Life, Dining Services, and New Student Programs met recently to discuss making late-night alcohol-free programming a regular weekend option for WWU students.

The group is collaborating to expand late-night programs for fall 2005, including shifting some of WWU's current programs to later hours. They are also discussing

ways to improve coordination and involve students in programming and promoting the events. Lastly, they are exploring ways to ensure that such programs will be sustainable without relying on grant funding.



WWU's Viking Union has sponsored a late-night event once a quarter for the past year, with about 400 students participating per event.

Popular activities at the event include casino games, karaoke, improv show, movies, reggae, concert, fencing lessons, and sumo wrestling.

Late-night programming has been deemed a "promising practice" for reducing high-risk student drinking by NIAAA.

LATE NIGHT



AT THE VU

ON CAMPUS NEWS

PREVENTION AND WELLNESS SERVICES CHANGE IN STAFF

In December, Prevention and Wellness Services said goodbye to **Lucy Sherwood**. Lucy began at Prevention and Wellness as a Lifestyle Advisor in 1997, and joined the staff in 2000. Her contributions and upbeat attitude will be missed, and we wish her the best as she pursues a nursing degree at the University of British Columbia.




Lucy Sherwood



Katrina Schaeffer

We are happy to introduce **Katrina Schaeffer**, newest staff member of Prevention and Wellness Services. Katrina has a diverse background from 10 years of military service and 8 years of experience in hospitality, including managing a convention hotel. She is excited about the new challenges and looks forward to meeting Coalition members.



CAMPUS COMMUNITY COALITION

The Bellingham—WWU Campus Community Coalition was established in 1999 by WWU President Karen W. Morse and Bellingham Mayor Mark Asmundson. Our mission is to promote working relationships and communication between the campus and community by striving to enhance shared responsibility, prevent and address problems related to student alcohol misuse, and contribute to the health and safety of the entire community.

Our Goals:

- Increase students' involvement in the neighborhoods in which they live.
- Increase compliance with alcohol-related laws through education and enforcement.
- Decrease loud and disruptive parties on- and off-campus.
- Increase property managers' accountability to their tenants and neighborhoods.
- Increase WWU's efforts to promote responsible choices and address student alcohol misuse through prevention education.
- Increase and diversify CCC funding and resources.

Campus Community Coalition Contacts:

- **Lara Welker**, Coalition Coordinator; **650-6863**
Lara.Welker@wwu.edu
- **Katrina Schaeffer**, Office Assistant; **650-4028**
Katrina.Schaeffer@wwu.edu

www.coalition.wwu.edu

2005 MEETING DATES:

Friday	May 20	11:45am-1:30pm
Friday	November TBA	11:45am-1:30pm

OPPORTUNITY— WE WANT YOUR INPUT !

Transition to Off-Campus Living Course - What do students need to know in order to live successfully in Bellingham's neighborhoods?



**CAMPUS COMMUNITY
COALITION**

Western Washington University
Old Main 555
516 High Street
Bellingham, WA 98225-9039