

President's Commission on Substance Abuse Prevention

******DRAFT******

Table of Contents

Statement of Purpose	3
Original Charge for the Commission	4
Commission Description	5
Commission Interviews and Testimony	6
PCSAP Consultant Statement of Facts and Findings	8
PCSAP Recommendations	9
DRAFT University statement about substance use at MSU	15

DRAFT

Statement of Purpose

There is a quote from antiquity advising that the best time to fix the roof is when the sun is shining. Montana State University (MSU) has enjoyed an unprecedented period of enrollment growth, infrastructure improvements, and academic achievement. In many ways our sun is shining brightly.

We believe this period of progress represents an ideal time to take proactive steps to address the question of how to update our approach to alcohol and substance abuse. We enjoy a unique opportunity to take up these challenges with the care and deliberation needed to situate our campus and community partners in a leadership position with respect to some of the most critical student life issues confronting higher education today.

The ten recommendations included in this report represent the consensus of a broad-based committee that has closely examined the problem of alcohol and substance abuse in both its local and national contexts. The recommendations reflect best practices and transformative opportunities to effectively address challenges before they become crises, and to further align our values with our policies and practices. As we move forward, we invite a deliberative process, a broad dialogue, which will include our students, faculty, staff, university leadership, and community partners in crafting a common purpose grounded in a shared understanding of our challenges, opportunities, and goals.

DRAFT

Presidential Commission on Substance Abuse Prevention (PCSAP)

CHARGE - Serve the MSU community by providing expertise and advice to the President for reducing harm and improving the health & safety of the MSU student experience as related to substance abuse prevention. PCSAP will-

- Review and become authorities on current MSU policies and programs that address substance abuse and prevention efforts on campus and in the Bozeman community.
- Conduct structured interviews with students, faculty/staff, and community stakeholders on how substance use and abuse impacts the overall institutional mission. Identify high risk groups and activities and develop harm-reduction strategies.
- Consult with national experts and review research on best practices and programs that work to reduce harm and improve overall wellness on college campuses.
- Produce a report including recommendations to improve policies and programs at MSU that address substance abuse and prevention efforts. This report should align any new request for resources with the MSU Strategic Plan and adhere to Federal Guidelines for the Biennial Review as directed by the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act.

MEMBERSHIP

Faculty (2) - Steve Swinford (Sociology) and Kirk Branch (English)

Students (2)- Sydney Sherick (Sorority Life and ASMSU) and Lukas Smith (Student at Large)

Bozeman Public Schools (1) - Robert Watson (Superintendent)

Law Enforcement (1)- Robert Putzke (Police)

Community/City (1) - Chuck Winn (Parent and City of Bozeman)

Commission Staff (1)- Tracy Ellig (University Communications)

Co-Chairs - Kiah Abbey (ASMSU) & Matt Caires (DOS)

TOPICS

- Review of current MSU alcohol programs, education, intervention, and harm reduction efforts
- Review current data on the number of alcohol and drug violations and related consequences that occur on and off campus.
- Local downtown taverns and night time economy issues
- Law enforcement efforts, limitations, and opportunities
- Football tailgate and other athletic/community events
- Fraternity & sorority events with alcohol
- Student Conduct & Residence Life
- Local families and community concerns, Downtown Renters Association & Local Property owners
- National best practices from an expert on substance abuse; review the NIAAA report on the culture of drinking on U.S. campuses.
- Media & Marketing of Alcohol through campus publications
- Alcohol Sponsorship in MSU events

Comments/Suggestions? Please contact Kiah Abbey (asmsupres@msu.montana.edu) or Matt Caires (mcaires@montana.edu)

Commission Description

The Presidential Commission on Substance Abuse Prevention (PCSAP) consists of Montana State University staff, faculty, and student leaders, and leaders in the City of Bozeman and the Bozeman School District, charged to examine and assess the issue of substance abuse among Montana State University students. PCSAP will serve the MSU community by providing expertise and advice to the President concerning substance abuse prevention at MSU. Our job has been to learn as much as possible about student culture at MSU and to make substantive recommendations to President Cruzado on initiatives that will improve that culture and reduce the harm associated with high-risk drinking and substance abuse.

The Commission was comprised of 10 members:

Faculty (2) – Dr. Steve Swinford (Sociology) and Dr. Kirk Branch (English)

Students (2)- Sydney Sherick (Sorority Life and ASMSU) and Lukas Smith (ASMSU Vice President)

Bozeman Public School District (1) – Dr. Robert Watson (Superintendent)

Law Enforcement (1)- Chief Robert Putzke (University Police)

Community/City (1) - Chuck Winn (MSU Parent and Assistant City Manager)

University Communications (1)- Tracy Ellig

Commission Co-Chairs - Kiah Abbey (Former ASMSU President) & Dr. Matthew Caires (Dean of Students, MSU-Bozeman)

Commission Interviews and Testimony -

The Commission hosted 16 meetings with constituent groups from Fall 2012 – Summer 2013. We invited testimony from stakeholders in the MSU and Bozeman communities, including students, university staff, MSU and Bozeman community leaders, law enforcement, and local and national experts in substance abuse prevention. We sought to learn about current trends and information regarding substance abuse prevention and to engage a wide-variety of stakeholders about their perspectives on the issue. These interviews included:

MSU Health Promotions - Jenny Haubenreiser, Director of Health Promotions, and Douglas Fulp, Health Education Specialist at MSU, presented current data and trends about substance use among college students, comparing national data with institutional-level data. They also discussed the Health Promotions' Alcohol Edu program, a web-based alcohol and drug education program for incoming students (new and transfers). In addition to serving as an educational tool for students, Alcohol Edu collects institutional data about alcohol and drug use.

MSU Student Conduct Programs - Tammie Brown, Chief Housing Officer and Director of Residence Life, and Terra Shewmaker, Student Conduct Coordinator, presented information about the student conduct program at MSU. Because alcohol and drug violations are some of the most common types of student conduct infractions, they also described the internal process for adjudication in those situations.

Law Enforcement - Rich McLane, Assistant Chief of Police from the City of Bozeman, Mark Lachapelle, former Assistant Chief of University Police, and Lt. Jake Wagner of the Missouri River Drug Task Force discussed in particular law enforcement challenges related to large house parties and MSU tailgating. Wagner described the ever evolving world of synthetic drugs and their growth in popularity, especially among young people.

MSU Students who throw house parties – An underage student described in depth the pros and cons associated with throwing and attending housing parties off-campus. He described a “rite of passage” when his roommate’s parents helped to set up a bar in their off-campus rental house, even though all roommates are under the age of 21 years old.

Local Tavern Owners - Mike Hope (Rock’n R) and Cameron Danforth (Bar IX) discussed substance abuse as it relates to downtown bars and taverns. Topics of interest included drink special offers, and the need for more frequent Streamline Bus route stops downtown. Note: Chad Yurashak (Bar IX owner) was invited but could not attend due to a scheduling conflict.

MSU Football Tailgate Concerns – Drew Ingraham, Assistant Director of Athletics, Duane Morris, Director of Event Services, and Curt Erpenbach, representing the Great Falls Alumni Tailgate, discussed perceived behaviors and substance use issues connected to tailgating at football games. The issue of substance use/abuse at games extends beyond the behavior of students. The modeling of high-risk drinking behaviors by community members is common at these events.

MSU Fraternity Parties - Erin Macdonald, Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, and Alex Chiapetta, former Inter Fraternity Council president, along with eight (8) members of the Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL) community, discussed the steps their community has taken to mitigate and reduce substance abuse at fraternity parties. This included information about policies at MSU, the policies set by their national organization, and the expectations they have for each other as FSL members.

Good Neighbor Program - Allyson Brekke & Chelsea Schmidt, from the Good Neighbor Program, a partnership between MSU and the City of Bozeman, discussed their activities to provide educational outreach to students and community members. The Good Neighbor Program aims to help students and community members to build positive neighborhood relationships, especially as students transition to off-campus living arrangements.

Insight Program - Rick Winking, MSU Insight Director, offered information about current services and educational classes offered by the Insight program. This program works in close collaboration with court mandated services through the City of Bozeman, although the classes are separate.

Students from the MSU Exponent - Derek Brouwer (editor in chief) offered insights into the current advertising policies that address taverns or alcohol.

Students in Recovery - Arguable one of the most compelling interview was offered by Tanner Moe, a non-traditional student who has struggled for over a decade as an alcoholic. Tanner has created a new student organization (MSU Students in Recovery) and currently has 20+ students who attend his meetings. The Commission discussed the importance of supporting this group and trying to locate space on campus for their meetings.

Staff from Bozeman High School - Laura St. John is currently the student assistance coordinator at Bozeman High School. She described her work with students as young as middle school with alcohol and substance abuse issues.

Dr. Jeff Linkenbach - Dr. Linkenbach is an expert in working with college campuses to address alcohol and substance abuse issues. He spent an hour describing the importance of leadership from top University officials, along with the need to have an integrated framework that addresses the multiple levels of abuse on campus and in the community.

Neighborhood Bozeman Residents - Emily Hooker (33 year Bozeman resident - lives 3 blocks from campus) and Elizabeth Healy (25 year Bozeman Resident) described their "love/hate" relationship with MSU students. While they love the energy that students bring to Bozeman, they struggle routinely with students screaming at all hours while under the influence of alcohol. One even described how students routinely urinate in her yard while walking home from a late night of drinking.

PCSAP Consultant Statement of Facts and Findings
-Dr. David Cozzens – University of Wyoming

The Commission spent two full days with Dr. Cozzens during his consultation visit to MSU in June 2013. Dr. Cozzens currently serves as the Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students at the University of Wyoming. He is nationally recognized for his efforts in decreasing high-risk drinking on his campus. During his visit, he met with law enforcement officials, elected officials and employees from the City of Bozeman, and MSU policy makers and students. Based upon his visit, Dr. Cozzens offered several recommendations for the Commission to consider, outlined here:

Consultant Facts and Findings

High-risk and underage consumption of alcohol on our nation's college campuses are significant public health problems. Each year in the United States on college campuses, drinking contributes to:

- 1,825 student deaths
- 599,000 student injuries
- 97,000 sexual assaults/acquaintance rapes
- 25% of all college students report having academic consequences because of their drinking, including missing classes, falling behind, doing poorly on exams or papers, and receiving lower overall grades (2012 NIAAA report).

Many of the damaging issues facing college students today, including suicide, depression, and sexual violence, have alcohol abuse as a common dominator. These issues detract from students' academic progress and intellectual growth, and take a toll on their development into adulthood. Nearly all students, regardless of their individual use or abuse of alcohol, experience the effect of this deleterious drinking culture found on most college campuses.

Like all university and college campuses across the country, the issues surrounding substance use, particularly alcohol, are complex and pervasive. The response to these issues needs to be comprehensive, patient and long-term. The most important object is to create a means to institutionalize a robust, ongoing and comprehensive discussion to send consistent messages regarding alcohol use and the dangers of excessive use. Although students may resist some tougher alcohol policies, it is crucial to strengthen our practices and strategies so to reduce the harm posed by excessive use.

MSU-Bozeman has an excellent start toward developing a culture that does not reinforce underage and excessive use of alcohol. I am confident that with increased dialogue and collaboration between the University and City of Bozeman a culture of healthy choices regarding alcohol will be established.

The recommendations suggested through the President's Commission on Substance Abuse Prevention will be instrumental in regards to this goal.

President's Commission on Substance Abuse Prevention (PCSAP)
Recommendations for President Cruzado's Consideration

"Creating a healthier living and learning environment at Montana State University that is safe, responsible, and legal."

#1. Campus/community coalition – The PCSAP learned that there are many programs, policies, and people focused on creating healthier living and learning environments on campus and in the City of Bozeman. Many times, the Commission would hear similar (or identical) concerns and ideas expressed in various meetings from different stakeholders. There is no centralized structure bringing these campus and community programs and stakeholders together on a regular basis to share ideas and resources, to improve relationships, and to promote ongoing communication regarding issues related to substance use and misuse.

Recommendation #1 – Establish a highly collaborative, inclusive and dynamic Campus Alcohol and Substance Abuse Committee (CASAC) to institutionalize ongoing efforts regarding harm reduction programs and the shift of student life alcohol culture. This new Committee will meet on a regular basis to share ideas and best practices, review policies and programs, and to foster internal and external communication among campus departments and stakeholders.

Responsibilities include oversight of the federal requirements in the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1994 biannual review (<http://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/9900staterreport/index.html>), ongoing assessment of alcohol/drug programs and policies, and future recommendations for changes to campus policies and practices on substance abuse prevention to the Vice President for Student Success. The Committee will apply evidence-based and evidence-informed practices in line with national standards established by the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the Department of Education's National Center for Safe and Supportive Learning Environments to all future recommendations for policies and program changes.

Under the leadership of the Vice President for Student Success and a member of the MSU faculty, this Committee will meet a minimum of five (5) times during the academic year (ideally over the lunch hour). The CASAC will be supported by the lead staff person addressing alcohol and drugs on campus in Student Health Advancement.

Since students are critical in reshaping campus culture with regarding to new policies, educational opportunities, and important enforcement efforts, it is critical to have a variety of students represented on the CASAC. While it makes sense to have the CASAC determine membership on an ongoing basis, our recommendation for initial committee membership includes:

Leadership - Vice President for Student Success (co-chair) & a Faculty member (co-chair), preferably with an academic or research background in substance misuse or addiction. This appointment will be made by the MSU President (and/or the MSU Provost) after consultation with the Faculty Senate chair.

Staff - Director of MSU Health Advancement (Committee Staff)

Members –

ASMSU President or ASMSU Vice-President

Students - Three (3) appointed by the ASMSU President

Faculty - Three (3) appointed by the Faculty Senate President
Dean of Students
Director of MSU Counseling and Psychological Services
Director of MSU Insight (MSU's alcohol and drug education program)
Member of the City of Bozeman Commission
Member of the MSU/City of Bozeman's Good Neighbor Program
Member of the University Police Department
Member of Bozeman Police Department
Member from the Interfraternity Council
Member from the Panhellenic Council
Member of the Inter-Hall Residence Hall Association
Member of the Intercollegiate Athletics Department
Member of Auxiliary Services
Member appointed by the Executive Director of University Communications
Member appointed by the Superintendent of Bozeman Schools
Member of the Gallatin County DUI Task Force
Member of the Downtown Business Association
Member of the Montana Taverns Association

#2. University value statement on substance use –During testimony, a number of experts in the alcohol and drug field suggested that MSU needs a public statement about alcohol and substance use to help guide and shape the work the University does with students, especially at their transition from high-school to college and during their first year. This value statement should unite campus-wide efforts to address substance use and strategically shape how campus approaches substance use during a student's time at MSU. Members of the Commission had preliminary discussions on this idea, and we considered a starting point for a future statement on "Safe, Responsible, and Legal" consumption of alcohol and other drugs.

Recommendation #2 – Under the leadership of the newly established CASAC, establish a subcommittee of no less of four members (one should be a student) to develop a University value statement that will guide our work for shifting campus culture and promoting harm reduction strategies for substance misuse. This subcommittee should be charged with providing an annual communication plan to the campus community about this statement. The PCSAP created a DRAFT University value statement that is included at the end of this report.

#3. Downtown Bozeman issues/concerns - PCSAP members interviewed students during a "field trip" to downtown locations that served alcohol on a Friday evening. One theme that emerged was the lack of frequent public transportation. Students were highly concerned about drinking and driving but expressed frustration about public transportation options. According to some students, the Late Night bus service picks up too infrequently and takes too long. Others were also concerned about repercussions of leaving vehicles downtown because of the City's overnight "no parking" policy. Finally, PCSAP members became acutely aware of the amount of drinking that occurred in a rapid fashion as a result of nightly drink specials at certain establishments during the evening.

Recommendations #3 -

1. Appoint a four-person subcommittee of the new CASAC to explore the possibilities for improving late-night transportation options in Bozeman. At least one of the four subcommittee members should be a student and one should be a member from Streamline.

2. This subcommittee should also explore options with staff from the City of Bozeman to improve parking regulations for individuals who decide to leave their car downtown after consuming too much alcohol to safely and legally drive home. This should include pursuing additional ways to communicate with students on the existing downtown parking regulations and options to decrease drinking and driving.
3. This subcommittee should facilitate discussions with the Bozeman Tavern Owners Association on ways to promote safer drinking practices that reduce the likelihood of unsafe consumption of alcohol.

#4. Improve support for Recovering Students and the INSIGHT Program – One concern that surfaced during our meetings was the lack of institutional support available to students in recovery for alcoholism and substance misuse and addiction. Traditional-aged students are susceptible to developing dangerous and unhealthy habits when they use and misuse alcohol and other drugs, and the University can do a better job in responding to those students by supporting student efforts to develop a community of recovering students. With increased growth comes increased diversity in students' prior experiences. To uphold its dedication to access, MSU needs to be preemptive in providing support to non-traditional and traditional-aged students who are recovering from issues related to substance misuse.

Recommendations #4-

1. Under the leadership of the CASAC, appoint a four (4) person subcommittee to explore the possibility of developing a community center for students in recovery. This new center could also house the current Insight program, staff and students.
2. MSU should work to support a student organization for Students in Recovery, using as models nationally recognized Centers for Students in Recovery developed on other campuses.
3. A future center should offer regular programming and training to various campus organizations and student leaders. Regular programming and training from this Center should be included annually during RA Training, Fraternity/Sorority risk management sessions, student-athlete orientations, and ASMSU fall retreats.

#5. University Student Conduct Program – The PCSAP had discussions with staff from both the Department of Residence Life and the Dean of Students' office about protocol after a student commits an alcohol or drug violation under the Student Conduct Code. While both departments seem to be doing an adequate job at providing additional educational opportunities and sanctions when students violate the Code, MSU needs a more integrated and seamless approach when responding to these violations.

Recommendations #5 –

1. Merge the current student conduct programs in Residence Life, the Dean of Students' office, and Intercollegiate Athletics to create one seamless University Student Conduct Program.
2. Create common sanctioning guidelines to ensure that sanctioning outcomes from violations in the Residence Halls and the Dean of Students' office have parity.

**** Much of this work occurred during AY 2014-2015*

#6. Student Transition Programs – During our interviews, it became clear that off-campus residential locations (i.e., Sophomore and Junior “house parties”) are the epicenter of high risk drinking by underage MSU students in Bozeman. According to the 2013-14 Alcohol EDU data, 62% of MSU students report drinking at an off campus residence as compared to the National average of 41%. Additionally, 19% of MSU students report riding with a driver who had been drinking compared to 10% nationally. Finally, 14% of MSU students reporting driving after consuming 4 or more drinks versus only 7% doing so nationally. Through the Good Neighbor Committee (GNC), MSU and the City of Bozeman piloted “Living in the Community” workshops in the spring of 2014. The GNC’s “Living in the Community” workshops provided students with information and resources on Bozeman laws governing noise, public disturbance, public drinking and other related issues. The pilot program also provided resources about how to throw safe, responsible, and legal parties with alcohol at off-campus residential locations.

Recommendations #6 –

1. CASAC will work with and support the current 15-member Good Neighbor Committee, (GNC). The GNC is an existing partnership between MSU and the City of Bozeman both financially and programmatically. The GNC has been active since April 2012.
2. CASAC will provide advice and support to the GNC on its “Living in the Community” program.
3. CASAC and the GNC will collaborate on evaluating resources and education provided to students transitioning to off-campus housing on a regular basis.

#7 Assessment of mandatory educational programs on substance abuse, sexual assault and alternative substance-free programs- PCSAP conducted brief reviews of existing mandatory substance programs required for students during their first-year at MSU-Bozeman. While PCSAP fully concurs that MSU should require all incoming students to complete some type of alcohol, drug, and sexual assault training, our Commission heard multiple reports from students that the currently required program (Alcohol.Edu) is not effective and out of date with contemporary standards.

In Summer 2014, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education for the Montana University System mandated that all new full-time and part-time, transfer, undergraduate and graduate students must complete authorized programs in alcohol education and sexual assault awareness and prevention. The current program is the Everfi product Alcohol EDU and Haven.

Recommendations #7 -

1. The lead ATOD staff member on campus will provide an annual report on the status, effectiveness and compliance rates of the current product used by MSU to comply with the OCHE mandate. That staff member will involve students in this review process.
2. Consider establishing additional resources for late-night activities that are on-campus and substance-free. Provide additional support to improve existing programs such Midnight Mania and Legend of the Bobcat.
3. Establish a better online calendar or clearinghouse of activities and a better way to use social media to broadcast the many healthy and substance-free activities for students at MSU to ensure that students are aware of existing programs.

#8 Improvements during MSU football games – One area of concern for high risk drinking is during home MSU football games in the tailgate area, especially during halftime. Many of the fans that attend MSU football games exit the stadium during halftime and go to the tailgate area. Many stakeholders interviewed during PCSAP meetings noted that the highest amount of alcohol consumption during football games occurs at half time.

In 2012, MSU began serving beer and wine during concerts and rodeo events in the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse, in part to discourage attendees from drinking prior to the events and then driving to campus. Current MSU policy states that beer and wine sales are discontinued half-way through the event to ensure plenty of time before attendees depart the venue. MSU Auxiliaries and MSU Police believe on-site beer and wine sales have decreased the number of alcohol incidents involved with these activities. Beer and wine sales at Brick Breeden offer an example of potential changes to beer sales at Bobcat Stadium. MSU currently serves alcohol in the “club” section of the stadium during football games. Moving alcohol consumption from an all-you-can-bring model in the tailgating area to one in which servers could decline sales to intoxicated patrons may reduce overconsumption at games.

For more information on this idea: <http://freakonomics.com/2012/09/06/can-selling-beer-cut-down-on-public-drunkenness-a-new-marketplace-podcast>

Recommendations #8:

1. Similar to other major Division I football stadium policies (West Virginia University, University of Minnesota), MSU should develop a plan to study the feasibility for a “no re-entry” policy for ticket holders during home football games.
2. As part of this feasibility study, MSU should gather appropriate data that would assess the benefits and liabilities associated with selling beer in the non-club sections of the stadium.
3. This study should be started in Summer 2016 and be conducted by the Center for Health and Safety Culture at Montana State University. The full CASAC should review the findings from this study in Spring 2017 and make a recommendation on any policy changes.
4. If the decision is ever made to adopt a no re-entry policy and to implement beer sales in the non-club section of Bobcat Stadium, a portion of the new revenue generated from beer sales in the stadium will be donated to additional risk-reduction and alcohol educational programs for students at MSU.
5. The Commission fully endorses additional levels of enforcement of currently existing tailgating policies that reduce high risk drinking starting immediately.

#9 Alcohol reforms at MSU Fraternities- Up until the late 1970s, it was commonplace for MSU fraternities and sororities to employ a chapter “house mother.” Most fraternities at MSU stopped this practice in the 1970s, as there was no University requirement for chapters to have a live-in mentor/mother. Currently, one MSU fraternity (Sigma Phi Epsilon) and all four MSU sororities have a live-in house mentor/mother. Sigma Chi fraternity will pilot a House Mentor position during Summer 2015.

Recommendation #9

1. **Integration of House Mentors.** All fraternity and sorority chapters with housing facilities at Montana State University will have a University approved House Mentor residing in the chapter facility during the academic year and during the summer (if the facility is occupied). The Dean of Students’ office will establish necessary qualifications and expectations for

chapter House Mentors and annually approve the appointment of the House Mentor in accordance with established qualifications and expectations. Based upon the potential financial impact having a House Mentor will have on the overall financial operations for a fraternity or sorority, the Dean of Students will have discretion to phase in this requirement based upon demonstrated financial implications on individual chapters.

The House Mentor will be expected to participate in regular meetings with the Assistant Dean of Fraternity/Sorority Life in the Dean of Students' office and attend all appropriate trainings and workshops. Similar to the system for those chapters that currently employ a house mentor/mother, funding for the House Mentor will be the responsibility of each chapter, with additional support from the University as funding becomes available.

#10 Reform to the State of Montana's Privacy Law (20-25-515)

The US Congress passed significant changes to the Federal Right to Privacy Act (FERPA) through the Higher Education Amendments of 1998. One of these changes included the ability for colleges or universities to notify parents when an underage student (under the age of 21) has committed a disciplinary violation of the institution's alcohol or drug policy. Since 1998, many schools across the country have created parental notification programs to notify parents or guardians when their student has committed an alcohol or drug violation (Lowery, 2005).

While the Federal Government has offered permissions to colleges and universities to notify parents when an alcohol or drug violation has occurred, the State of Montana's current privacy law is more restrictive than the federal law and prevents post-secondary institutions in Montana from doing so. Research indicates (Turrisi, et al, 2013; Palmer, et al., 2001) that parental notification programs are a promising best practice and an effective way to help improve alcohol and drug culture on our campuses.

To date, only two states remain that do not allow for parental notification programs (Montana and Oregon).

Recommendation #10-

1. Ask President Cruzado to create a work group to study the feasibility of updating parental notification policies in Montana. This work group might include representation beyond MSU from the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and the University of Montana. This work group should be charged to explore the possibility of supporting a modification to current State of Montana privacy law to allow colleges and universities in the MUS system to notify parents when minor students violate the campus alcohol or drug policy, in compliance with the Higher Education Amendments of 1998. The goal is to further promote student success by creating opportunities for the right sort of student involvement and support.

Draft University Value Statement about Substance Use at MSU

Montana State University is committed to protecting the safety, health and well-being of our students, employees and alumni, while offering a learning environment that promotes academic, social, and personal development.

While the institution permits the moderate and responsible consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus, MSU recognizes that a university environment may be particularly vulnerable to abuse of alcohol and other drugs, especially among our undergraduate students. We also recognize that illegal or abusive use of alcohol or drugs by members of the University community jeopardizes the safety of individuals and others and is not conducive to the academic learning process.

Montana State University upholds the legal, safe, and responsible consumption of alcohol, which is secondary to the overall academic mission of the University. To that end, we will not emphasize the use of alcohol in activities and at events. Additionally, the University strongly supports education and treatment programs as the most effective means to help prevent and reduce alcohol misuse among our students and our community.

DRAFT