

Official Notice from the Chancellor



February 29, 2008

TO ALL UCLA GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS:

Maintaining a campus community that fosters the highest standards of personal and institutional integrity is a critical component of university life. I urge each of you to assist in keeping UCLA free of the problems of substance abuse and dependency.

The harmful effects of substance abuse, which include personal health problems, difficulties in personal and work relationships, and decreased productivity, diminish the quality of campus life. Unfortunately, the problem is not an isolated one: across the nation, approximately 44 percent of all college students engage in binge or heavy drinking (i.e., five or more drinks in a brief period of time), and one in three college students drinks to get drunk.

UCLA's firm and long-standing commitment to prevent this type of behavior has had impressive results – the vast majority of UCLA students abstain from illicit drug use, and most students report no use or low-risk use of alcohol. Indeed, the rate of binge or heavy drinking among UCLA students is less than approximately half the national rate. Most of you demonstrate excellent judgment, and for that I applaud you.

Still, our campus is not immune to this problem. Nor are we immune to the tragedies that can occur when alcohol and/or drugs impair one's judgment. The ability to teach and to learn depends upon a healthy and engaged student body. And our commitment to excellence demands high levels of personal responsibility and a steadfast pledge to maintain a safe campus.

For the minority of students who suffer from dependency on alcohol and/or drugs, I want to take this opportunity to note that help is available. UCLA offers excellent programs and services to assist those with dependency problems. I encourage all members of the campus community who feel that they may be alcohol- or drug-dependent, or who are interested in learning more about dependency prevention, to take advantage of these resources.

To assist in achieving a campus free of the problems of substance abuse, the university has adopted policies prohibiting the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, possession, or use of controlled substances and alcohol on university properties or at official functions, on- or off-campus. Any member or group of the campus community violating these policies and regulations will be subject to disciplinary action.

The following is an **Official Notice to All UCLA Students** regarding substance abuse. Similar information is being sent to UCLA faculty and staff. If you have any questions regarding the University policies and regulations or assistance programs and services described, **please contact the Office of the Dean of Students (1206 Murphy Hall) or the Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center, Health Education (221 Westwood Plaza).**

Sincerely,

Gene D. Block
Chancellor

OFFICIAL NOTICE TO ALL UCLA STUDENTS REGARDING SUBSTANCE USE

This official notice is issued pursuant to Subpart B, Section 86.100, of the Federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989

Standards of Conduct

All students are expected to comply with Sections 102.17 and 102.18 of the UCLA Student Conduct Code. These policies enable the Chancellor to impose discipline for such misconduct as the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, use, or sale of, or the attempted manufacture, distribution, dispensing, or sale of controlled substances, identified in Federal and State law or regulations; or the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, use, or sale of, or the attempted manufacture, distribution, dispensing, or sale of alcohol which is unlawful or otherwise prohibited by, or not in compliance with, university policy or campus regulations. More specific campus regulations regarding substance abuse are listed below:

- **Student Alcohol Policy** (<http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Alcohol.html>)
- **Regulations on Activities, Registered Organizations, and Use of Properties** - contained in the *Activities Guidelines* (http://www.saonet.ucla.edu/campus_regs/s)
- **Policy Applying to Official Recognition of Men's and Women's Fraternities, and Other Similar Organizations** - by the University of California, Los Angeles (<http://www.greeklife.ucla.edu/officialpolicies/alcoholpolicy.htm>)
- **On-Campus Housing Conduct Regulations** - contained in the *On-Campus Housing Handbook* (<http://www.orl.ucla.edu/>)
- **University Apartments Conduct Regulations** - contained in the *University Apartments Single Student Housing Handbook*
- **Policy on Alcohol Use at Home Football Games** (<http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu/Alcohol.html>)
- **Policy Statement on Drug Education and Testing Program for Student-Athletes and the Drug Program Protocol**
- **Alcohol Use Policies while using Recreational Facilities or Participating in Activities Sponsored by UCLA Recreation** - contained in the official documents of *UCLA Recreation* (<http://www.recreation.ucla.edu>)

Legal Sanctions

Numerous Federal, State, and local statutes and ordinances relate to the manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or alcohol and impose legal sanctions for both felony and misdemeanor convictions for violations. Detailed information regarding these statutes, which may change over time, is available from the Department of Community Safety/Campus Police (601 Westwood Plaza). Drugs considered to be controlled substances are listed in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (29 U.S.C. 812) and are further defined by Regulations 21 C.F.R. § 1308.11 – § 1308.15. Copies of the Act and Regulations are available for review from the Office of Campus Counsel (3149 Murphy Hall) and the Law and Biomedical Libraries.

- Drug-related penalties may include the following:

Simple possession of controlled substances - possible fines (up to \$10,000 per violation), and/or jail sentence, and denial of Federal Financial Aid

Manufacture, sale, or distribution of all scheduled drugs - possible fines, and/or prison sentence for a FELONY, and denial of Federal Financial Aid

Distribution or possession with the intent to distribute a controlled substance on University property - up to TWICE the prescribed sentence for the original offense and TWICE the prescribed parole time (required); possible fines, and/or jail sentence, and denial of Federal Financial Aid

Possession of one or more ounce(s) of marijuana for personal use - possible fines, and/or jail sentence, and denial of Federal Financial Aid

Possession of less than one ounce of marijuana - possible fines (up to \$100), and denial of Federal Financial Aid

Cultivation, possession for sale, or sale of marijuana - possible fines, and/or prison sentence for a FELONY, and denial of Federal Financial Aid

In addition, it is a misdemeanor to sell, furnish, give, or cause to be sold, furnished, or given away, any alcoholic beverage to a person under 21 or any obviously intoxicated person, and no one under 21 may purchase alcoholic beverages. It is also a misdemeanor for any person under 21 to possess or consume alcoholic beverages on any street or highway, or in any place open to the public.

Health and Substance Use

Contrary to many media portrayals, UCLA Arthur Ashe Student Health & Wellness Center surveys consistently show that the vast majority of students abstain from illicit drug use and MOST students report no use or low use of alcohol. In fact, in 2002, approximately 80% of undergraduate survey respondents reported drinking 0-4 drinks in a sitting, and about 28% said they did not drink at all. Among graduate students, it is even rarer for students to report having more than four drinks in a sitting.

However, the minority of students who said they drank more than four drinks in a sitting also reported the highest rates of negative experience in connection with their drinking, e.g., academic problems, blackouts, injuries, legal and disciplinary sanctions, drinking and driving, and unplanned or unprotected sex. Consequences are not limited to the drinker alone. Many students report that their studying is interrupted due to another's drinking.

Students often express surprise or disbelief when they hear these figures. When students are asked about what they think other students are doing, they consistently overestimate alcohol and drug use among their peers. Perhaps this is because the disruptive behavior of a small number of heavy users tends to be more visible than the unremarkable behavior of the majority who are not using alcohol or other drugs in ways that hurt themselves or others.

The Arthur Ashe Student Health & Wellness Center Health Education Unit is one of many campus departments that works in partnership with student groups to empower the majority of students who want to promote a healthy and safe campus environment around the issues of alcohol and other drug use. For additional information, call Health Education at 825-6385.

Where to Get Help

Help is available for students who are struggling with symptoms associated with their own or others' alcohol or other drug use. Student Psychological Services (SPS) provides the following services:

Assessment for alcoholism and addiction; referral to appropriate support groups (Alcoholics Anonymous, Marijuana Anonymous, etc.); referral to treatment programs (inpatient, outpatient, UCLA Matrix Center, off-campus recovery and/or treatment programs); intervention; individual and group psychotherapy for adult children and partners of alcoholics/addicts; brief therapy for students who abuse drugs and/or those in recovery; psychotherapy groups for students who abuse drugs and/or those in recovery.

Students may also wish to seek advice or assistance from the Center for Women and Men (310/825-3945), the Office of the Dean of Students (310/825-3871), the Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center (310/825-4073) or the Office of Residential Life (310/825-3401).

University Imposition of Disciplinary Sanctions

Procedures for handling violations of policies and regulations related to drug and alcohol use are consistent with judicial and disciplinary processes used for other University violations, as outlined in the UCLA Student Conduct Code, Sections 103.00 to 106.00 of the University of California Policies Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations and Students and in some of those documents listed under Standards of Conduct above. Sanctions for violation of University policies or campus regulations include, but are not limited to, the following: Warning/Censure, Hold on University Records, Community Service, Restitution, Disciplinary Probation, Suspension, Dismissal, Exclusion from Areas of the Campus or from Official University Functions, and Loss of Privileges and Exclusion from Activities. In addition, referral for treatment is usually considered to be part of the disciplinary process and any sanctions imposed.