

Waldorf College
AODA Prevention: Spring 2008 Biennial Review
Completed by the Waldorf College AODA Task Force

I. Description of AOD Program Elements

Waldorf College emphasizes a policy enforcement and student engagement approach to alcohol and drug issues. Waldorf College does not allow students or employees to have alcohol on campus in any capacity. (consumption, possession) This policy allows for enforcement of policy to be clear and without a vague decision making process. The student engagement tools utilized on campus include educational strategies, alternative activities, environmental strategies, community involvement, and early involvement and connection strategies. The counseling approaches employed by the Student Life Counseling Department include screening, assessment and education. Specific descriptions of key campus strategies are listed here.

Education Strategies /Public Awareness

The counseling staff provides educational sessions and information upon request of academic classes, student organizations, and athletic teams. Our Wellness curriculum offers a course *WEL 250 Substance Abuse: A Holistic Approach to Prevention and Intervention (3 credit hours.)*. This course provides an introduction to the topic of substance abuse prevention and intervention. The focus is on looking at substance abuse from a holistic perspective (social, psychological, and physical). Special emphasis will be placed on the role that the student can play in the prevention of substance abuse through community education and treatment of substance abuse through teaching healthy living skills. This course is an elective available to all students and encouraged for the wellness and psychology programs.

Waldorf College, in the Fall semester of 2007 sponsored two national speakers. One on intimacy issues including use of alcohol and regretted sex. The second speaker addressed the use of the internet for academic and personal reasons. The speaker emphasized the need for caution on posting photos and information about personal or group alcohol or other drug use on personal webpages, blogs, and social community sites.

Alternative Activities

Waldorf College is committed to providing a variety of recreational opportunities that are convenient on our small rural campus. Waldorf accomplishes this with a full time Student Activities Director and the Social Warriors Activities Team (SWAT) a student led organization that coordinates the on-campus activities. SWAT and the Activities Director coordinate extensive activities (free to Waldorf Students) including but not limited to, intramurals, special entertainment, free movie weekends, coffeehouse in library (Java City), nighttime dining alternative (Gatsby's), Fine arts, Waldorf Community Artist Series, Convocation speakers (nationally recognized speakers), recitals, theater performances, art gallery shows, and regularly scheduled chapel services.

Waldorf College also has 30+ student led organizations. Student Senate is the leader of these organizations and provides funding and sponsorship for many of the projects, events and activities. These organizations offer leadership opportunities as well as alcohol and other drug free gatherings. In addition the college encourages student leadership and involvement through role modeling and campus positions such as, Resident Assistants, Assistant Hall Directors, Orientation Leaders, Coordinator of Intramurals, Peer Leaders and Student Ambassadors.

At the beginning of the academic year there is First Year Student orientation with several engagement activities, and throughout the year there are special events such as Homecoming, BASH Battle of the Bands, Winter Fest, Warrior Cup, and Family Weekend.

Waldorf College strives to encourage the students to be engaged in a well rounded group of activities in addition to their academics. The college has around 75% of the student body involved in co-curricular activities, fine arts, Wind symphony, Waldorf College Choir, Sangkor, Theater/Drama, intercollegiate athletics, and intramural athletics.

The residence halls, lead by the student staff, provide regular activities and events of a social and educational nature throughout the semester.

Policy Development, distribution and enforcement

The Alcohol/Drug policy has been in place since the creation of the college. This dry campus status allows the judicial procedures to be clear and concise. We have a clear and thorough Student Code of Conduct that lays out the standards we expect of our student's behavior and the policy violation system.

There is review by the Residential Hall Directors, and the Director of Residence Life and the Dean of Students for all unusual or special circumstances. Consistent incidence of violations over the past 2 years is attributed to enforcement by contracted security and residence hall staff.

The AODA task force reviews the current policies and makes recommendations as the need arises. Policies also prohibit alcohol related advertisements from being displayed on campus.

Campus alcohol/drug policies are available on-line to all enrolled students in the fall of 2007. The current student policies are on-line with full access to faculty and staff for implementation campus wide. Brochures outlining AODA policies are distributed in the residence halls by the student staff.

During the 2006-7 Academic year
65 students were cited for violating alcohol and drug policies on campus.
23 students athletic code violations (involving alcohol or drugs)

54 students were cited for housing violations (involving alcohol or drugs)
8 students received alcohol or drug citations from the Forest City or other local law enforcement agencies

Community Involvement

The Office of Student Life meets with the local police department and Winnebago Security to monitor student activities, campus safety and security and involvement with alcohol and other drugs.

Campus personnel address off campus violations of the under age drinking laws and other alcohol and drug violations by treating them as violations of campus policy.

Early Involvement/Referral

Several strategies are used to encourage early intervention. Policies and enforcement are reviewed upon entrance into the college during orientation and the freshman seminar course.

First violation – judicial hearing, letter to student, screening by counseling staff, recommendations to be followed, \$50 fine, on-line educational program (3-4 hours), \$150 failure to comply if course not completed

Second violation – judicial hearing, letter to student, assessment by counseling staff, recommendations to be followed, \$150 fine, writing educational program (4-6 hours), \$150 failure to comply if course not completed, parental notification at the discretion of staff

Third violation – judicial hearing, letter to student and parent, review by dean of students for appropriate fine and sanctions. \$200 fine, disciplinary probation, or suspension from school, further assessment by counselor

Note: Violations occurring at the apartments at Timberland Village (off-campus apartment complex) are stated and agreed to in the lease agreement signed by students living there.

Statement of AODA program vision

AODA prevention programming at Waldorf College addresses the following goals:

1. *To continue to consistently to enforce the campus wide policy of no alcohol/drug possession or consumption.*

This policy has been in long standing and therefore relatively simple to enforce and encourage. The student handbook states policy clearly and residence life staff and student staff assist the Student life department in enforcement and sanctions.

2. *To encourage an environment where abstinence is an accepted and respected choice.*

As an ELCA College our students come to college with the understanding that certain aspects of “average” college life will be different. Certain expectations of student behavior such as responsible alcohol use is part of what the students expect from a church affiliated college.

3. *To encourage an environment where low risk choices are perceived to be practices as the norms by those choosing to drink alcohol.*

A campaign of information distributed by e-mail, table tents, posters, and the website to encourage abstinence, and responsible low-risk drinking will be initiated.

4. *To encourage an environment where most of the students recognize and know how to help a peer who makes a high-risk alcohol choice.*

Through training of the student staff and distribution of information the student body will be informed of the danger signs of high risk and binge drinking and campus emergency response procedures.

Summary of AODA Program Successes and Room for Improvement

Successes

Waldorf College has an extensive Student Activities department. It is lead by the Social Warrior Activities Team (SWAT). This student lead organization has 20 + members and advises the Activities Director in choices of speakers, performers, and events for the students to attend. SWAT and the Activities Director organize 4-5 events per month not including the intercollegiate sporting events and fine arts performances. These activities are generally well attended and promoted effectively.

Waldorf College is an Evangelical Lutheran College of America (ELCA) College. This association has opened the opportunity for the students to create faith based organizations that encourage abstinence from alcohol and drugs. With the leadership of the Campus Pastor there are several formal and informal faith based groups that meet on a regular basis on campus. These include but are not limited to: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), Exit to Hope, Active Catholics to Serve (ACTS), and the Theme House of FCA students.

Waldorf College addresses the issues facing First Year students by offering information and education on making wise choices in the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol, as well as intimacy and relationship choices. These education sessions occur during orientation and within the freshman seminar course (first 7 weeks of the fall semester)

Waldorf College is a “dry campus”. This policy has allowed administration to easily enforce and create a campus that promotes and encourages abstinence and good choices around the use of alcohol and drugs.

The AODA committee is comprised of the Dean of Students, two members of the Counseling Department Staff, a Residence Hall Director, a member of Faculty, a Student and a Coach of the college football team. This committee is a comprehensive cross-section of the members of campus.

Waldorf College is situated in a community, Forest City, Iowa, that has a population of 4500. Forest City has a relatively small amount of bars and restaurants that serve alcohol. This atypical “college town” atmosphere assists Waldorf College to maintain a manageable amount of alcohol use and abuse within the community. Waldorf College and Forest City has a growing relationship which enhances the opportunities for the students to engage in the community without the need of using alcohol and/or drugs. Waldorf College also includes the local police as resources and has a solid professional security force contracted to monitor the campus. Enforcement is consistent and effective in maintaining a manageable level of behavior.

Room for Improvement

Waldorf College has had on and off committees to address this issue but not with consistency or ongoing involvement. The current group will make strides to maintain and make improvements to current information dissemination and promoting awareness of on and off campus alternative activities.

This task force will collaborate with the athletic teams, the activities director and the fine arts departments to encourage enforcement throughout extra curricular activities and organizations. We know we need to continue to create unique and attractive educational events related to the topic of substance abuse to our students.

This task force will have annual Alcohol Awareness Week prior to the Spring Break each spring Semester, beginning in 2009. The week will feature a nationally renowned speaker and multiple activities sponsored by student organizations and organizations to promote making appropriate choices about the use of alcohol and staying away from drug use. Activities to include but not limited to “Alcohol Jeopardy”, driving while intoxicated simulator, Speakers from local MADD chapters and local police.

Waldorf College has employees who rent apartments to our commuter students. The AODA committee can reach out to local landlords and "staff landlords: and develop some communication on these types of expectations, respectful and legal behavior or consequences to them.

Waldorf College will also work to increase the community relations with the local police force. This relationship is seen as a potential of miscommunication and misunderstanding between our students and the local community. To build a bridge between Forest City and Waldorf College is essential to success in our AODA pursuits.

Extensive marketing and social norming campaigns needs to be initiated on campus. The task force will maintain the campaign using pre-printed and in-house created posters,

table tents, multi media shows, and public relations campaigns to promote healthy choices, informing on the community resources to respond to crises, and provide addiction and abuse rehabilitation and counseling, and learning the signs of dangerous intoxication and when to activate the emergency response system. The committee will address off campus violations to improve community relations. Address the issues arising from 4 year campus residency requirement.

Procedures for distributing AODA Policy to students and employees

Students are given access to the Student Handbook which contains the complete alcohol and drug policies at anytime through the Waldorf College website.

In 2006 all student were given hard copies of the Student Handbook. In subsequent years the Student Handbook will be available through the campus website.

The Athletic Department, through its coaches, creates and administrates additional collaborative alcohol policies and procedures for the athletes.

Brochures distributed that give a synopsis of campus policy and scenarios to consider for students to be informed of repercussions of alcohol and other drug use on and off campus. These brochures will be utilized by residence hall staff during floor meetings.

The campus policy was distributed and to all personnel via the Waldorf College website.

Copies of the Policies Distributed to Students and Employees

See Attached

Recommendations for Revising AODA Programs

Explore possibility of substance-free on-campus housing as a learning community.

Continue the high standard of frequent campus sponsored activities.

Create a campus AODA website and include information for various populations (i.e. parent, staff, and students)

Provide prevention/intervention training and coalition building activities for faculty, administration, staff, and coaches.

Encourage growth of campus organizations that encourage models of abstinence and/or responsible, low-risk drinking.

Develop educational materials and support services for the campus addressing issues of addiction and abuse of drugs and alcohol.

Create a web based hub for alcohol and drug information on the campus website.

Continue to build the relationship with the Forest City community to encourage responsible choices by the students surrounding alcohol.

Require the First Year students to go through an on-line alcohol education program prior to entry to the college.

Third policy violations will be increased to \$400 for the next semester.

Drug and Alcohol Committee Chair

Date

Dr. Richard Hanson, Waldorf College President

Date