Alcohol Culture at Tulane: 10 Years of Progress
Dear Community Members,

I am pleased to share with you this 10-year review of the work to change alcohol culture at Tulane. For the last decade, a group of dedicated staff have worked to change, shape, and create a culture that would reduce high-risk alcohol use among our students. This report highlights those efforts and the progress that our data show we have made. While we are excited about the changes, we know that there is still more to be done.

This report reflects our continuing assessment of the health of our students and the work that is core to the staff within in the Division of Student Affairs. Campus Health, as the leader of health for students, has tracked, monitored and advocated for change around the alcohol culture and implicitly engaged with countless campus partners to change practices, promotions, and programs to create a safer Tulane. It takes a community to tackle changing ingrained social norms and cultural values around any issue; the campus communities support in making these changes were key to the progress made.

We in the Division of Student Affairs, and the entire Tulane Community are dedicated to supporting efforts to improve the health and well-being of our students. As we move into the next decade, we look forward to sharing future updates and successes.

J. Davidson “Dusty” Porter, PhD
Vice President
Division of Student Affairs
Student Alcohol Use Over Time:

- Fall 2012: 86.4%
- Fall 2014: 88.1%
- Fall 2016: 87.7%
- Fall 2018: 81.7%

Undergraduate students reported using alcohol in the last 30 days.
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2008
- The Office of Wellness Services is re-launched after a several-years pause post Hurricane Katrina. This is the beginning of addressing the growing high-risk alcohol use among students.
- Online Alcohol Education is implemented for all first-year undergraduate students.
- Peer Health Educators, part of the Student Health Center, begin providing peer-led alcohol education to students in their residence halls.

2009
- The Office of Wellness Services begins coordinating.
- Responsible host training is implemented.
- Alcohol education in TDG is chosen by Peer Health Educators.
- Parent webinars aimed at talking to their students about alcohol.
- Peer Health Educators for student wellness.

2010
- A joint effort between Campus Recreation and the Student Health Center combine the Office of Wellness Services and Office of Student Health & Wellness into a new office. The Office of Wellness Services provides health and wellness programming in one office, in line with efforts and resources.
- BASICS is implemented on campus and students are required to pay $150 per year to offset the cost of the program. Over 60% of students are seen in the first year.
- The National College Health Assessment Data is collected, offering data to support the need for intervention around high-risk alcohol use.
- Peer Health Educators at Maryland Grille launch to increase awareness and resources.

2011
- Peer Health Education is integrated and re-named to become the Tulane Peer Health Educators (TUPHE).
- The CORE survey is administered, providing a snapshot into the alcohol and drug use of students. This data lays the foundation for the work being done through the Office of Wellness Services.
- Tulane After Dark is launched to offer students an alternative to alcohol. The program’s successful launch sees 200-300 students attend events each week. Friday and Saturday nights on campus.

2012
- The inaugural EDGAR Part 86 review is completed to assure compliance with federal guidelines for alcohol prevention, education, and response.
- Tulane receives a Student Great Plains Grant to support BASICS.
- The BASICS is free to reduce barriers to students using the service.

2013
- 5% of undergraduate students report engaging in high-risk drinking (≥5 drinks) in the last 2 weeks.

2014
- An all-campus Alcohol Summit is held to bring campus leaders together to address high-risk drinking. These efforts were the culmination of the Healthy Campus Coalition.
- Tulane University Peer Health Educators (TUPHE) begins offering The Buzz alcohol education program. This new program, from the University of Arizona, provides new skills and educational tools to student educators.
- The updated alcohol policy is implemented, and marketing on campus begins to engage students and highlight the rules.
- Leaders of the TUPHE create the Tulane Coalition, combining Student Health, CAPS, and The Well into one entity under the leadership of an Assistant Vice President for Campus Health. This new structure, one of the first in the country, combines health resources to increase focus on the health needs of students.
- A new peer-led alcohol education program launched.
- 5% of undergraduate students report engaging in high-risk drinking (≥5 drinks) in the last 2 weeks.

2015
- The alcohol task force shifts gears to create new protocols to address how alcohol is provided on campus. This is a shift in culture to reduce alcohol use at on-campus events.
- Tulane joins the JED Foundation's Alcohol Education and Intervention Program.
- New weekly and themed events related to Halloween and Spring Break are implemented to address increased alcohol use and behaviors.
- The Tulane Parents Council, a letter to the Tulane President, sends a letter to the Tulane Student Health Services and discusses the need for alcohol education at Tulane.

2016
- To further address the alcohol culture on campus, an Alcohol Educational Scan was conducted at the request of the Campus Health Director. Dr. Toben Nelson seeks to understand the campus from a student’s perspective.
- The Well receives support and resources from SAMHSA to provide comprehensive suicide prevention education, and the $10,000 Great Plains Grant supports bystander intervention education. Both efforts recognize the role alcohol plays in undergraduate students, and include strategies to reduce high-risk drinking.
- The Alcohol Environment Scan (AEDGAR) review results in an updated Alcohol and Other Drug Policy to be implemented in fall 2017. This is the first new alcohol policy on campus in over a decade.
- An expanded online alcohol education is offered with a new sexual assault module included.

2017
- Based on feedback from the Alcohol Environmental Scan, the President’s Office sends a letter to the Tulane community addressing high-risk alcohol use. This is a defining moment in addressing alcohol use and beginning to shift how alcohol is talked about at Tulane.
- Screening and Brief Intervention treatment for alcohol use is implemented at the Study Health Center.
- The Alcohol Environmental Scan: Team partners with Tulane parents to address alcohol and other drug issues, as well as those students who are recovering back to campus from treatment.
- The Well receives support and resources from SAMHSA to provide comprehensive suicide prevention education, and the $10,000 Great Plains Grant supports bystander intervention education. Both efforts recognize the role alcohol plays in undergraduate students, and include strategies to reduce high-risk drinking.

2018
- Tulane joins the JED Foundation's Alcohol Education and Intervention Program.
- A new high priority period is established during the fall semester for alcohol use and behaviors.
- The Well receives support and resources from SAMHSA to provide comprehensive suicide prevention education, and the $10,000 Great Plains Grant supports bystander intervention education. Both efforts recognize the role alcohol plays in undergraduate students, and include strategies to reduce high-risk drinking.

NOW
- Collegiate recovery community is developed and a new program manager search is in progress.
- Guidelines for parents, faculty and staff are available to help start discussions around high-risk alcohol use.
- A core component of communication is about alcohol use, and the role that alcohol plays at Tulane is acknowledged and talked about openly.
- The Alcohol and Other Drug Policy is promoted as a critical component to planning campus events.
- Peer Health Educators continue to play a critical role in providing outreach and education to students about high-risk alcohol use.
- Brief Alcohol and Screening Intervention for College Students (BASICS) is provided for free to students, helping them change how they use alcohol.
- A College Health Education Data Assessment is conducted to identify gaps and provide information to students.