Building an Evidence-based Comprehensive Prevention and Intervention Program to Address Alcohol Use Among Student-Athletes Using a Public Health Framework

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NYSCHA-NECHA Annual Meeting

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 - The Desmond Hotel and Conference Center

Learning Objectives

- ▶ Identify the key components of an alcohol abuse prevention program focused on student-athletes.
- Describe the key elements of an evidence-based social norms campaign addressing alcohol use among student-athletes.
- ▶ Describe the key elements of an evidence-based screening and brief intervention protocol addressing the unique needs of student-athletes.
- ▶ Identify correlates of success and lessons learned in the implementation of evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies designed to address alcohol use among studentathletes.

Components of UAlbany Comprehensive AOD Prevention Program

- **✓ Presidential Leadership**
- **✓ Campus AOD Task Force**
- √ Student Involvement/Leadership
- **✓ Social Norms Marketing**
- **✓ Campus-Community Coalitions**
- ✓ Inclusive Academic Excellence
- **√** Healthy Living Communities
- ✓ Alcohol-Free Activities
- **✓ Early Intervention**
- **✓ Restricting Alcohol Marketing/Promotion**
- **✓ Policy Evaluation/Enforcement**
- ✓ Parental Involvement
- √Treatment & Referral
- **✓ Research and Program Evaluation NCHIP**

Spectrum of Intervention Response: Alcohol Abuse Prevention

Optimize
Health&
Wellbeing

Reclaim Health

Prevent Problems

Treat Problems

Specialized Treatment

Outpatient Assessment,
 Treatment, & Referral

Health Promotion

- Social Norms Campaigns
- Peer Services
- •Committee on University & Community Relations
- •Healthy Living Communities

Early Intervention

- BASICS
- ASTP Groups
- Interactive Education with Social Norms
- AA Meetings
- Consistent Policy Enforcement

Timeline: Evidence-based Practice Implementation & Evaluation



2006: Project Healthy STEPS

2006: Project Winning STEPS

2010: STEPS
Program Awards

Registry of
Evidence-based
programs &
Practices



PROJECT WILLIAMS STEPS

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER

University at Albany Couseling Center 400 Patroon Creek Blvd., Suite 104 Albany, NY 12206

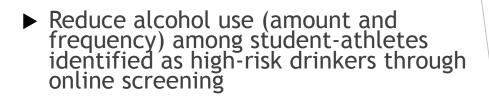
Phone: 518-442-5800 Fax: 518-442-3096 www.albany.edu/counseling center

Project Winning STEPS: A Screening & Brief Intervention for Student-Athletes

M. Dolores Cimini, Ph.D., Joe Monserrat, Psy.D., & Estela Rivero, Ph.D.
University at Albany, SUNY

October 28th , 2015

Project Winning STEPS: Goals





- ► Reduce alcohol-related harms among student-athletes identified as high-risk drinkers through online screening
- Educate student-athletes about alcohol's impact on athletic performance

Funded by the Grant Competition To Reduce High-Risk Drinking or Violent Behavior Among College Students, FY 2006

What's Unique About Winning STEPS?

Personalized Feedback About The Relationship Between Alcohol & Athletic Performance

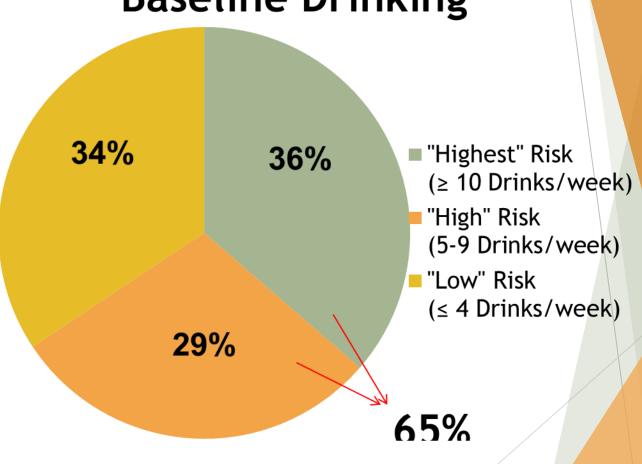
Physical

- ► "Hangover" effects
- Dehydration
- ▶ Nutrition/Endurance
- Injury
- ► Motor skills
- ▶ Sleep

Psychological

- ▶ Confidence
- Motivation
- Attitude
- Decision-Making





Highest Risk

(≥10 drinks/week)

- Drink about 8 days per month
- Peak # of drinks= 13 on at least one occasion
- Majority are male (79%)
- 45% were in-season
- Experience the most alcohol related problems-(specific to athletics as well)
- Use the fewest protective behaviors

Brief Intervention

- ► Eligible athletes invited to participate
- ► 1-hour individual feedback session (BASICS)
 - Motivational Interviewing
 - Social Norms
- ► Athletic performance factors
- Drinking Motives



PROJECT WINNING STEPS

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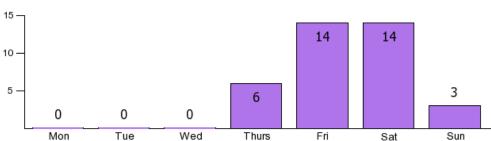
Typical Drinking

According to the information you gave us, you typically drank **4** days per week over the past month.

Over that past month, you consumed approximately 37 drinks per week.

This is what you told us about your typical number of drinks over the course of a week:





The typical UAlbany student drinks 6 drinks per week.



PROJECT WINNING STEPS

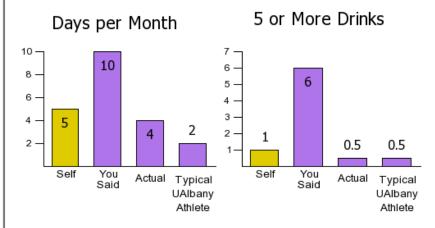
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Drinking Norms

The graphs below show the frequency of your alcohol consumption and the number of times in the past two weeks you had five or more drinks. They also depict what you told us you believe to be the average for UAlbany students on each of these as well as the actual values for UAlbany students.



Most UAlbany students drink fewer than two times per week, and most students think that others drink more than they actually do.



PROJECT WINDING STEPS

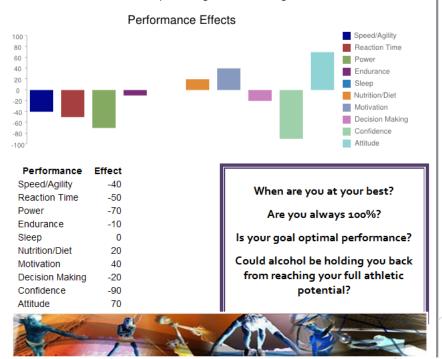
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Your Beliefs About Alcohol and Your Athletic Performance

The graph and chart below illustrate the degree to which you believe your athletic performance related factors are positively or negatively affected as a result of your alcohol use. These scores are percentages and can range from -100% to +100%.





PROJECT WINNING STEPS

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Alcohol and Athletic Performance

There are a variety of ways in which use of alcohol can have a negative impact on your ability to perform at your best.

MYTH: THE 48 HOUR RULE

If I wait 48 hours after drinking, I'll be back to my peak performance for competition, right?

Not quite... Consuming 5 or more alcoholic drinks on a single night can affect your brain and body for as long as 3 days. So a 72 hour rule might be a better fit. In fact, two consecutive nights of drinking 5 or more drinks can have an effect for up to 5 days.

Dehydration



DRINK UP!

Alcohol can cause the body to lose 3% of body fluid in a 4-hour period, which can translate to a decrease in performance over 20%!

Nutrition and Endurance

GO THE DISTANCE

Alcohol can cause a decrease in aerobic performance by 11.4%



Demographics of Sample: Class Year/Gender

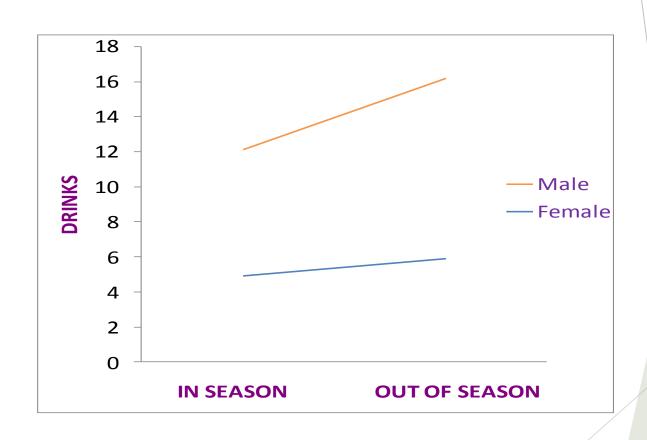
Class Year	Male	Female	Overall
Freshman	158	107	265 (48%)
Sophomore	69	44	113 (21%)
Junior	57	28	85(16%)
Senior	37	23	60 (11%)
Graduate	14	5	19 (3%)
TOTAL	335 (62%)	207 (38%)	542

FINDINGS

Baseline Drinking Characteristics

Variable	Male	Female	Overall
Peak Drinking	10.7	5.6	7.9
Drinks Per Occasion	4.2	3.2	3.6
Heavy Drinking Episodes (mode)	weekly	weekly	weekly
Drinking Days, Past 30	5.4	4.5	4.9

Drinks Per Week: In Season vs Out of Season



Between Group Differences

Drinking Measure	No Intervention N=398	Had Intervention N=144	Significance
Drinks per week	10.5	22.1	P<.05
RAPI-A Score	7.1	11.4	P<.05
HED Episodes, Past Month	3.1	5.4	P<.05
Use of Protective Strategies	59%	48.3%	P<.05

Between Group Differences

Reported Consequences, Past 30 Days	No Intervention N=398	Had Intervention N=144	Significance
Blackout	19%	46%	P<.05
Injury	25%	26%	NS
Failed to meet responsibility	18%	24%	P<.05
Drunk/hung-over at athletic practice or game	17%	22%	NS
Drunk/hung-over in school	15%	17%	NS

Project Winning STEPS: Changes in Alcohol Use, Associated Negative Consequences, Protective Behaviors, and Norms Perceptions among UAlbany Student-Athletes at 3-Months Post-Intervention (Face-to-Face BASICS)

Variable	Danalina	Fallow He		Downsont
Variable	Baseline	Follow-Up	Р	Percent
	N=42	3 Months		Change
		N=42		
Reductions in Alcohol Use Frequency and Quanti	ity			
Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test	9.64	8.33*	<.05	13.6% reduction
(AUDIT)				
Last time partied BAC	.056	.045	<.10	19.5% reduction
Reductions in Negative Consequences				
RAPI total score	4.76	2.58*	<.01	45.9% reduction
RAPI total plus Athlete-specific negative	5.38	2.56*	<.01	52.5% reduction
consequences (RAPI-A)				
Increases in Use of Protective Behaviors				
PBSS total score	47.56	50.31*	<.01	5.8% increase
PBSS - Limiting/Stopping Drinking Strategies	18.26	19.71*	<.05	7.9% increase
3 11 3 3 3				
PBSS - Manner of Drinking Strategies	16.26	17.41*	<.05	7.1% increase
PBSS - Serious Harm Reduction Strategies	13.34	13.71	.14	2.8% increase
Correction in Misperceptions of Campus Alcohol Use Norms				
Perception of Drinks Per Week, Typical	22.36	15.93*	<.001	28.8% reduction
Student				
NOTE: * Indicates statistically significant				

NOTE: * Indicates statistically significan outcome

QUESTIONS??

Contact Info:

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Building A Student Athlete Social Norms Campaign

Brian Freidenberg, Ph.D. Rachel Burnetter, LMSW

University at Albany
Counseling & Psychological Services

Social Norms Theory

- Social-norms theory provides a model for substance use
- It postulates that indirect peer influence, in the form of perceptions, affects an individual's own behavior, regardless of the accuracy of the perceived norm
- Most college students overestimate the percentage of students who use alcohol and other drugs on college campuses and such overestimation has been shown to predict individual substance use

Goals of a Social Norms Campaign

- 1) Correct misperceptions about students
- 2) Reveal that <u>Healthy Behaviors</u> are the <u>Norm</u>
- 3) Empower students to make <u>well informed</u> decisions about their health

Social Norms Theory

- Important as college students, including student athletes, typically overestimate unhealthy behaviors by peers
 - Alcohol use
 - Tobacco use
 - Marijuana use
 - Prescription Med misuse
- NCAA regards social norms campaigns for student athletes a best practice intervention

Student Athlete Social Norms Campaigns













Getting Started

Getting Started

- 1) Assess need (and interest!)
- 2) Choose an appropriate survey
- 3) Determine method of administration
- 4) Be aware of potential obstacles

1) Assess Need & Interest

- What is the perception of student athletes?
 - · Administration, Athletic department, Athletes, Non-athletes
- Is there an image problem?
- Is there existing data to suggest an AOD problem?
- Does the athletic department want to know more about the athletes?
- Is the athletic department aware of NCAA's position on supporting student athlete mental wellness?
 - Substance use prevention is critical to student success.
 - Establish an environment that is supportive of student success and deters excessive drinking/drug use.
- Do you have an insider? Can you get one?

1) UAlbany Need & Interest

- What is the perception of student athletes? Uncertain
 - · Administration, Athletic department, Athletes, Non-athletes
- Is there an image problem? Maybe
- Is there existing data to suggest an AOD problem? No
- Does the athletic department want to know more about the athletes? YES!
- Is the department aware of NCAA's position? Maybe
 - · Substance use prevention is critical to student success.
 - Establish an environment that is supportive of student success and deters excessive drinking/drug use.
- Do you have an insider? Can you get one? YES!

2) Choose A Survey

- National College Health Assessment (NCHA I)
- NCHA II
- CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey
- Institutional Survey
- Combination

- Will it be anonymous?
 - Increase in validity of responses vs. desire to follow specific participants over time

2) UAlbany's Survey

- Combination Survey (UAlbany Health Survey) with questions inspired from:
 - NCHA I
 - NCHA II
 - CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey
 - Questions from staff
 - · Questions from Wes Perkins' survey research
- 2 pages
- Takes 5 minutes to complete
- Anonymous

3) Administration Method

- Orientation event
- Team meetings
- Stratified randomly selected athletes by team
- Online/email invitation

3) UAlbany's Administration

- Team Meetings & Practices
- Paper & pencil
- Problem with online versions:
 - Low response rate
 - Not a randomly selected sample

Teams Surveyed

- Football
- M Soccer
- W Soccer
- M Basketball
- W Basketball
- Volleyball
- Baseball
- Softball
- Tennis

- Baseball
- Softball
- Field Hockey
- Track & Field
- M Lacrosse
- W Lacrosse
- Golf
- Dance Team
- Cheer Team

4) Potential Obstacles

- Can you maintain administrative support?
- Do you have access to graphic designers?
- Are coaches on board as public supporters?
- Do you have enough people to help execute the campaign?
- Do you have money?

4) UAlbany Obstacles

- Can you maintain administrative support? Maybe
- Do you have access to graphic designers? Yes!
- Are coaches on board as public supporters? Eventually
- Do you have enough people to help execute the campaign? Yes!
- Do you have money? Athletics does!

NORM EXPOSURE

Presented as a "Health Awareness Campaign"

Social Norms Posters

- Two posters are released together every other week
- Posted in high visibility areas
- "Scoreboard" posters
- Some are protected under glass
- High exposure is important



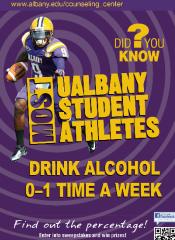
of UAlbany student athletes have not engaged in unprotected intercourse as a result of alcohol use.

Get the Latest Stats on UAlbany Athletes.



of UAlbany student athletes think leadership potential is important in their future careers.

Get the Latest Stats on UAlbany Athletes





plan to pursue a graduate or professional degree.

Get the Latest Stats on UAlbany Athletes. www.albany.edu/counseling center



ARE NON-SMOKERS





udent athletes would help in a dangerous situation.

Get the Latest Stats on UAlbany Athletes



Get the Latest Stats on UAlbany Athletes. www.albany.edu/counseling_center

Spring 2009 Anonymous Survey of UAlbany Athletes





of UAlbany student athletes do not allow alcohol to affect their academics.

Get the Latest Stats on UAlbany Athletes. www.albany.edu/counseling_center



DON'T LET ALCOHOL AFFECT THEIR ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE



Like social.norms for a chance to win gift cards up to \$25



DID YOU KNOW

contribute to the well-being of fellow athletes.



of UAlbany student athletes take steps to be safe in drinking situations.

eating before or during drinking

alternating non-alcoholic with

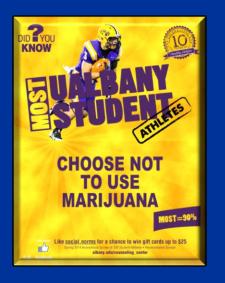


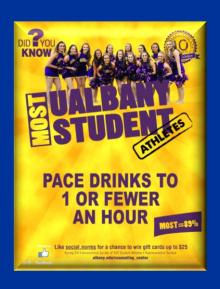
USING ALCOHO

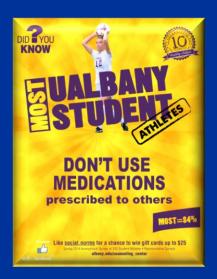
Find out the percentage! Enter into sweepstakes and win prizes!



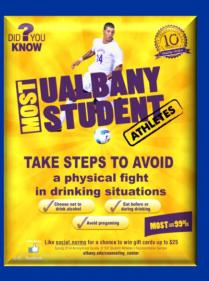
Fall Posters

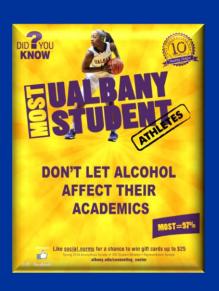








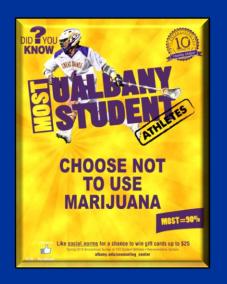


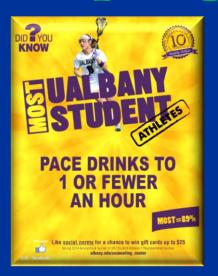


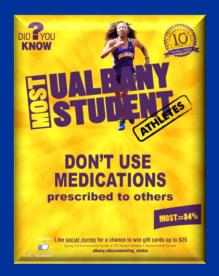




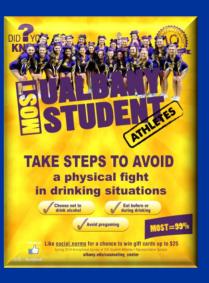
Spring Posters



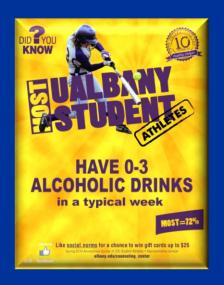


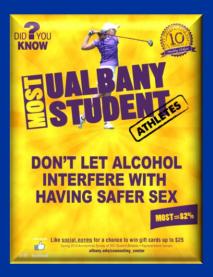


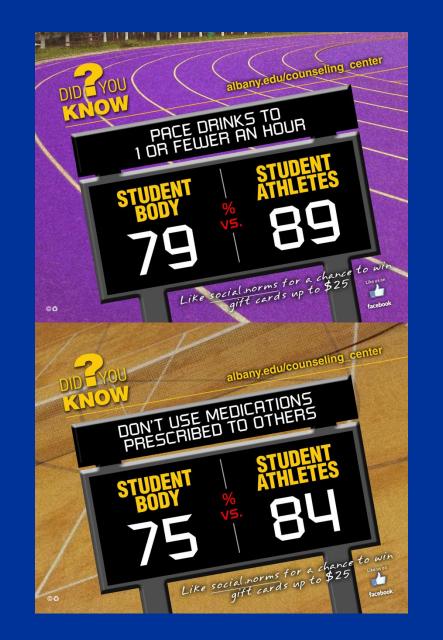


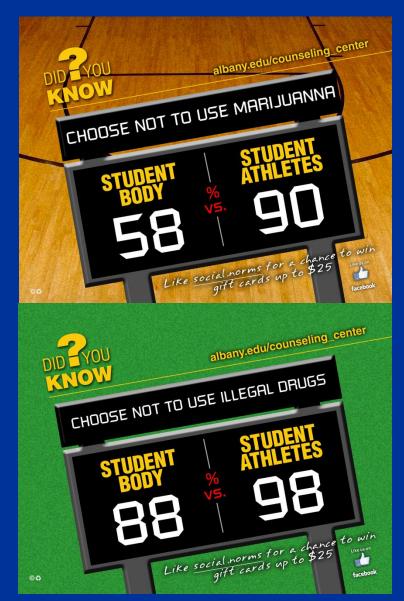












Alcohol Awareness Week





Social Media



UAlbany Social Norms Campaign Counseling and Psychological Services added 16 new photos to the album: Athletics Campaign 2014-2015.

September 10, 2014 · @

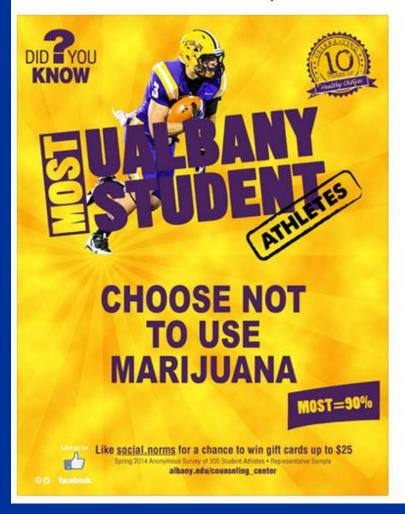
Wait...I see two of them?! That is right, UAlbany! This year the Social Norms Campaign will be releasing a different set of athletes each semester to accompany our messages. More athletes, more UAlbany pride!





Published by ▲ Rachel Burnetter [?] - October 3, 2014 - Edited [?] - 🍖

Be sure to check out your UAlbany Great Danes as they take on James Madison this weekend. Let's keep this undefeated streak going UAlbany!





Published by ▲ Rachel Burnetter [?] - November 10, 2014 - Edited [?] - 🍖

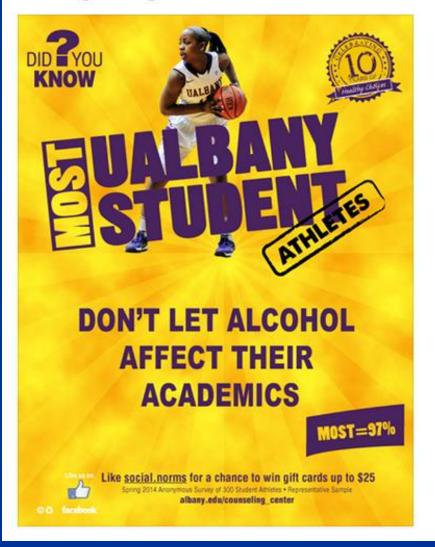
Have you been watching our UAlbany Field Hockey team lately? They just won the America East Championship! Wish your UAlbany Great Danes good luck in the NCAA tournament by liking or commenting on this status.





Published by ▲ Rachel Burnetter [?] - November 20, 2014 · 🍖

UAlbany Great Danes Basketball is here! Who's looking forward to watching some games this season?! We know we are!

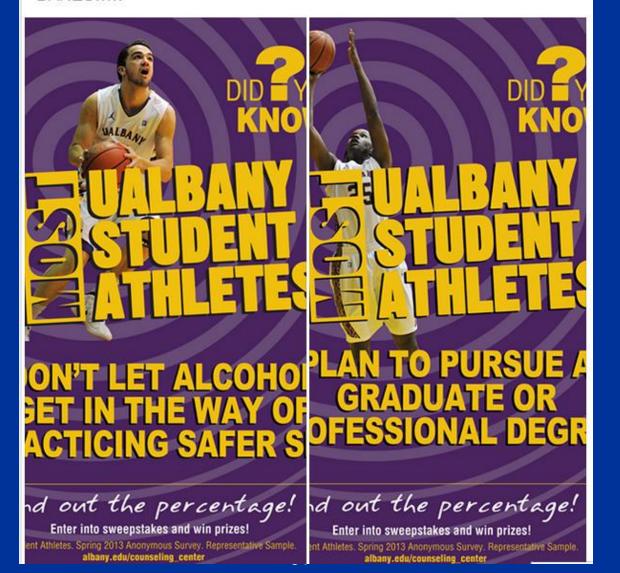




UAlbany Social Norms Campaign Counseling and Psychological Services added 2 new photos.

Published by Brian Freidenberg [?] - March 20 - 🚷

Today is the day. Best of luck to our two favorite basketball teams! GO DANES!!!!!



ASSESS OUTCOME

Changes Since Campaign Began

Changes Since Campaign Began

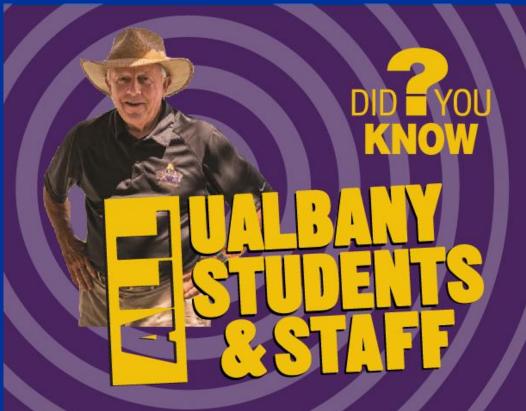
- 65% increase in alternating alcoholic & non-alcoholic drinks
- 44% increase in pacing drinks to 1 or fewer per hour
- 38% increase in avoiding drinking games
- 36% increase in alcohol abstinence
- 20% increase in non-smokers
- 19% increase in choosing to party without alcohol
- 13% increase in using designated drivers
- 12% increase in not allowing alcohol to affect academics
- 11% increase in practicing protective behaviors

Changes Since Campaign Began

- 45% decrease in fighting as a consequence of drinking
- 41% decrease in injuring self as a result of drinking
- 36% decrease in misuse of prescription pain killers

Concerns To Address

- Change in department leadership
 - Value of campaign
 - Depiction of athletes on posters
- Engagement with student athletes



WILL MISS COACH FORD

We thank him for over forty years of great service and wish him well on his retirement.

albany.edu/counseling_center

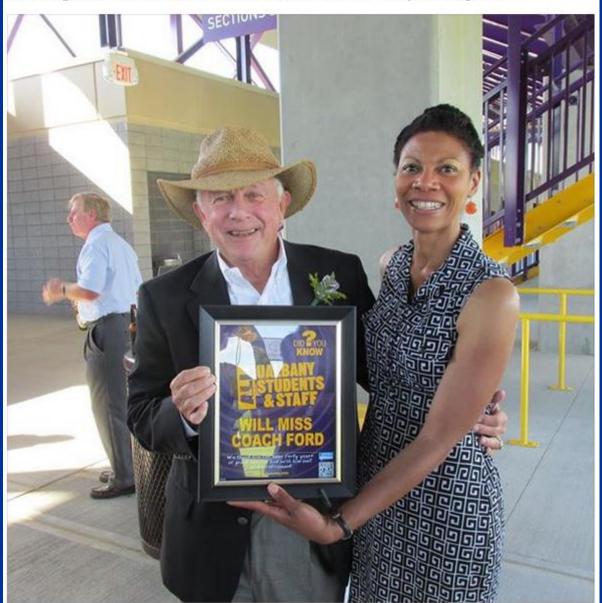






Published by Brian Freidenberg [?] · August 1, 2014 · ♠

Wishing Coach Ford the best of luck as a new chapter begins!



Thank you!