

SGA Agenda
March 24, 2009

Opening Prayer

- Led by Mount Spirit

Past Business

Dean of Academic Affairs – Dr. Leona Sevick

Student Forum with President Powell – Monday, March 23rd 7:00 Knott Aud.

Current Business

Guest Speaker: Crystal Hollenbaugh, Asst. Director of Res. Life for Judicial Affairs

The Res Life office has gotten a lot of questions as the weather warms up about the “new” open container policy. The policy hasn’t changed. We’d like new ideas about how to get the policy out there so students understand the rules and unnecessary conflicts are not created. Crystal will also answer questions about party registration. The Open Container policy has been the same for 3 years if it does not have a factory seal the bottle is considered open and one cannot have it outside. If a bottle has a lid but no factory seal is considered open. This policy is re-ratified every year by SGA. As the weather gets warmer it becomes more salient. Why the open container policy? Does it apply to soda? Why aren’t those who are 21 allowed to drink outside? It is illegal for those under 21 to consume alcohol anywhere! Even though we are a private institution we have to have a liquor license to serve alcohol outside. Every department on campus needs to get these. As for soda, the loud minority with alcohol ruins it for the quiet majority who follow the rules. A liquor license has to be approved through Special Events and Conferences and Dining Services. A coffee cup could be considered an open container if you read the code literally. Public safety does have the right to stop you between classes with coffee or other beverages from Patriot. Why have to-go cups? The concern is not what is put in them in the dining hall; it’s those 5 people who put other substances in them. There is a considerable difference between a person outside with a cup at 3:30 on St. Paddy’s and someone with a coffee cup on their way to class. Is there no rule about letting PS check to see that there is not alcohol in your open container? There is a big difference in how a person approaches a PS officer, be respectful so you don’t ruin it for everyone else. My apartment doesn’t register because only 4 apartments can register on a night. The total number allowed to be registered is 12 per weekend night in the Apartments and 12 for a weekend night between Terrace/Sheridan/Bicentennial, essentially 3/tower, but first come first serve. According to an RA present that policy changed in the middle of the year, only one party/tower is allowed to register. As far as Crystal knows no one has never not been approved to host a party unless the apartment has been told previously or they are submitted the form after 12pm. It seems that any type of gathering is being shut down lately. If you have a gathering with alcohol that meets the definition of a party, as written in the Student Code of Conduct, that is maximum of 15 people in a 5 person apartment that is considered a party whether registered or un-registered. Crystal’s stance has always been register your parties, this rule is in place to make sure the University is accountable and is able to support the guests who are having that party. If I want to register and the registration for my tower is gone what should I do? We have never said no to someone in good standing

who wants to register a party, if someone tells you that you cannot register a party as long as you are in good faith talk to Crystal. Why only 4 parties allowed to register at a time? Crystal is not aware of the policy change and the Res Life office is not necessarily following that. If the party is un-registered what is the policy on PS/Res Life counting guests? Someone can only count guests in your room if you allow them to enter. Courtesy hours was a concept created by SGA some years ago giving a resident the right 24/7 to go to a neighbor and tell them to please keep the noise level down, it is your responsibility, so you can call PS or an RA. Noise complaints are not always as a result of quiet hours, they can be anonymous and Res life/PS has to follow up. Be polite to the officers and RAs ask if you can I count occupants for them, if someone doesn't believe you try to find a resident of the room and talk to them, PS or Residence Life staff entering rooms to count people is the exception not the rule. The limit to party registration as written in the Code of Conduct is a rule we're bound by, Crystal is not 100% certain on state compliance, and anyone with questions would need to talk to Dean Post who started with the 12 limit for parties. Can SGA follow up on/change the rule about limits/regulations about party registration. A party is considered a gathering with alcohol, so I can have 15 people in my room all sober with the music up and not be written up? Literally yes, but fire codes are always in effect so Crystal wouldn't recommend trying to get around the rules this way. Students have the right to ask who is knocking if RA's covered the peephole or otherwise disguise themselves. The restriction on parties is a noise issue, but it causes a lot of people to go off campus unsafely. It is illegal to drink under 21 so policy will not be changed because people are making bad choices. Crystal has never had this many parties be registered before, more un-registered parties were being broken up before. Has there been more elasticity with the rules? The policy has changed with the RA's but the student code of conduct has not changed? If it's not in the book it will not be enforced. People have been turned away from registering for prior problems but that is purely situational. There's confusion on number of registered parties allowed in the apartments, so the Exec Officers and others will make commitment to have a meeting and get clarity on an understanding of system and what the policy is on number of parties allowed to register as well as the technique used for enforcement. Neither of these things will get resolved this evening. Sean will meet with Crystal and go through channels as an administrator to get clarity. Sean is supporting Crystal, but we have to move on because we're going in circles. Is there any feedback and suggestions on how to let people know about the open container policy? Red solo cups are usually obviously filled with alcohol, but if you're off to the side with a coke bottle not being rambunctious why would Public Safety bother you? Could the officers use more discretion when approaching people outside? One cannot register a party outside without liquor license. Can I get my own liquor license? Please let people know that cups from the cafeteria are considered open. Post pictures around the towers letting everyone know that everything without a factory seal is considered open. Ask your res life reps if you have any further questions. The Exec Board, the Senior Class Officers, residence life, and Public Safety will continue this conversation in a more controlled setting and the issues brought up tonight will be resolved.

Reports

- **Academic Affairs** – Working on scheduling a meeting with Dean Sevick and Bethany Matthews about Orientation and Honor Code.

- **Advancement Committee** –
- **CAB** – Pillow Fight! Is Sunday from 3-5 in AC from 11-3 teams of 3, asking for a donation of \$3. Selling t-shirts as well tomorrow; Yearbook email was sent that had a public log-in for yearbook pictures, questions about the process, ask Christina McLean
- **Campus Ministry** – Successful men's Kairos! Service retreat as well! Spring retreat April 3-5. Witness and worship in Knot tomorrow night. Skits, testimony, and other activities, it should be a great event!
- **Intercultural Development-**
- **Community Outreach** –
- **Commuters** –
- **Dean of Students** – Mount Card Access in the Gatorade Machine at the ARCC! Finally! Chose the machine based off a survey. Check it out; let us know if it doesn't work!
- **Dining Services** –
- **Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Committee** –
- **Finance Committee** –
- **Graduate Student Representative** –
- **Information Technology** – Minimum specifications for students' personal laptops next year. Working with the reorganized schools to iron out any minimum requirements. These will be pretty basic, including a modern operating system and an office compatible office suite. Check out the rest of the information at admissions website for prospective students.
- **Mount Spirit** –
- **Public Safety** – Info from meeting with Barry Titler, a donated parking spot will be given away at the Auction!
- **Publicity** –
- **Recreational Services** –
- **Residence Life** –
- **SAAC-**
- **Seminarian Representatives** –
- **Class of 2012** –
- **Class of 2011** – FUNdraising. T-shirts are coming soon, talking about charity event, slowly but surely getting toward goal for fundraising for the year
- **Class of 2010** – T-shirts; tye-dying at the pillow fight. The danceathon is \$1 an hour or \$12 for the whole night April 3rd from 8-8, it will be a lot of fun! If you have questions please let the officers know!
- **Class of 2009** –
- **Executive Board** – Purcell Planning email will sent tomorrow. General plan but specifics will be worked out for community event, everyone will be kept in the loop as it progresses, Exec Board Elections – campaigning begins Friday at 5, speeches are Tuesday March 31st in Laughlin at 7.
- **SGA Advisor** – Internal Room Reservation Changes- due to budget reductions, the President's office cut one full time position – Corie Matijevic moving to advancement as event planner. The Office of Campus Activities will handle room reservation and event registration for all internal activities starting this summer. The policy will change for how to register events, forms will be available online. We will be able to see conflicts before they arise because one office in charge of everything.

Open Forum

Is there a possibility for recycling for glass bottles near the apartments? It would make it more convenient. Hopefully we will have it by the end of the year. It comes down to people power, and the number of employees we have. Jack Weller does all the recycling, in order to increase that we have to be fair to him. Is there a possibility of going to recycling center? At this time there is not a company willing to do that for us. ESSC and recycling committee are working to find a vendor.

What is going on with the old scoreboard in Knott? It is from a different company than the newer scoreboards and it will be worked on over the summer so that the three can be integrated.

Recycling forum will take place on April 2nd at 6:30 in the Mount Cafe. A Panel consisting of recycling committee members, ESSC, administrators, physical plant personnel, environmental club members, and the SGA Executive Board. Please come out to voice your concerns about recycling on campus.

Birthdays!

Intentions

- Led by Public Safety