

DRINKING

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of beer and hard liquor available, violating a number of rules in the greek system's current by-laws.

This may change.

The University administration and national fraternity and sorority chapters are forcing the greek system to shape up. A proposed policy would further enforce the prohibition of underage drinking by immediately putting one chapter, which was found to be in violation, on probation.

"It just seems real obvious to everyone that the greek system has turned a blind eye to underage drinking," said Elaine Green, University associate dean of students. "It is frankly a situation where group laws and what's normal are out of sync."

The greek system's current policy prohibits minors — those younger than 21 in Oregon — from consuming alcohol at functions, in accordance with state law. However, no rules exist that dictate how this policy should be followed, which is one of the proposal's aims.

And because the policy is not stringently followed, the University administration is pushing the greek system to get tougher.

Green said one of the University's concerns came after the school received a number of phone calls from parents saying their son or daughter had a "bad experience" at a greek function.

Although the University doesn't own the chapters' houses or their property, the greek system does have an obligation to the University because the greek system receives student funds and lists of incoming freshmen that are used for fall rush, said Calley Anderson, president of the University Panhellenic Council, the sororities' governing body.

A national fraternity and sorority movement to help the greeks' image is also trying to eliminate underage drinking in the greek system, she said.

Anderson said although the old rules were not always followed, the new ones will be, so the greeks will not be pressured, she said.

The new draft of the policy would require one of three alcohol-related options for greek functions:

- Hire an accredited Oregon Liquor Control Commission server who will be responsible for checking the identification of all invited guests, members and pledges before dispensing alcohol in the designated area, which

is where alcoholic beverages are stored and monitored by the server.

Under this option, an OLCC-catered cash bar is also a choice. People at the function could use money to purchase alcohol at the function, similar to a real bar.

- The bring-your-own-beverage plan will soon be used by the sororities and is one of the new options for the entire greek system. Members from both the participating fraternity and sorority would be responsible for purchasing and bringing their own alcohol.

"The BYOB policy would make fraternities and sororities be creative and take the emphasis off alcohol [at functions]," said Todd Packebush, president of the Interfraternity Committee, the fraternities' governing body.

Anderson said the current policy will last through spring term, but the sororities have opted to switch to the bring-your-own-beverage policy next term.

Three forms of this option are mandated:

The first requires students at the function to have a photo identification card created through the University's student identification system that would indicate whether the person was of legal drinking age.

The second is a bailee system, in which the bailee (server) is one representative from the participating fraternity and one from the sorority, both of whom have to be at least 21 years of age. The bailees distribute the alcohol to those in their respective chapter, all of whom also have to be 21.

The third form follows putting initials on the person's stored beverages. The person's ID is then checked to ensure the person owns the alcohol and is more than 21 years of age. These people must also wear a wristband indicating that they are more than 21 years of age.

- A create-your-own-judicial-policy would also be mandated under the new rules. The proposed plan would have to be submitted two weeks prior to the func-

tion and be approved by the greek system's Tribunal Board.

A major change proposed in the overall greek system's rules is the punishment dealt to the fraternity or sorority if any of the three options are violated.

The current policy's punishment for violation of its rules is the minimum penalty of the loss of one social function and the maximum penalty of one term of social probation for a chapter.

But the proposed policy is much more harsh. The minimum penalty would be a \$200 fine, and the maximum penalty would be losing three social functions that term, in addition to the \$200 fine.

Violations would include underage drinking, which will also be monitored by Tribunal Board representatives present at functions. Distribution of alcohol to minors not 21 and offering alcohol outside of the designated area are other violations.

The final version of the overall policy must be approved by the University Student Conduct Committee, which requires and approves revisions and changes in the greek system's rules every year. The committee will meet today at 4 p.m. to discuss the final policy drafted by the greek leaders.

Peter Gilkey, the committee's chairman, said the issue that would be looked at most closely is the penalties given for a violation of the new policy. He said the conduct committee is working together with greek leaders on the policy, rather than telling them what to do.

Gilkey said the new rules, though, must clearly define how the penalties would be implemented because there was an issue of liability with greek functions. For example, the University could possibly be legally held responsible for injuries that happen at a greek function, he said.

"You and I both know that regulations without sanctions are no good," he said. "I've seen a lot of proposals, all of which sound fine. The trick is that it has to be something that the presidents believe in."

Anderson, a member of the University's Alpha Phi chapter, said she was surprised by the committee's apparent hands-off attitude when the many greek leaders met with the conduct committee late last term.

Green, of the dean of students office, which acts as a University/greek system liaison, said the new proposals have met little resistance except from the more "traditional" people.

"People say that's what college life is all about," she said.

'I've seen a lot of proposals, all of which sound fine. The trick is that it has to be something that the presidents believe in.'

— Peter Gilkey,
Student Conduct Committee
chairman

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