

ASG: Students and staff opinions divided over photos

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However, when asked whether ASG members should be accountable for breaking laws in regards to legal drinking, Zuelke stated a different opinion for their illegal actions.

"If an ASG member is in their own right [drinking] and is 19 in their own right, I could care less," said Zuelke.

Robert Keeler, Department Chair of Social Sciences said that student leaders should be self-aware in their actions, and should not be penalized by the college.

Men's Basketball Coach Clif Wagner said that he wasn't sure how college students drinking was news.

"What you do on your own time should not matter. Everyone has a right to a private life," said Wagner.

Social Studies Instructor Loren Ford understands the importance of a person's private life but sees student government officials differently.

"It is an inevitable part of college life that most students are going to consume alcohol, but care should be taken that there isn't a connection with the college and the person is part of student government," Ford stated in an email.

Although some students do not care whether or not ASG was drinking underage, many students on campus find the representatives' illegal actions disreputable.

To me it's wrong that any one who represents a group of people would break the law and be okay with it," said Noah Gordin. "I'm completely against underage drinking. We have laws against that and the fact that they break them, post the photos online and brag that they did it and don't want to be held accountable shows that's wrong with leaders today. I think they should all step down. It's just not

right."

According to Fava, whose MySpace page says she is 18, the party was a personal event and should not be held against her.

"So my only comment is that it wasn't on school time and had no ties to the college whatsoever," said Fava, "and it in no way affects my abilities to fulfill my duties as a student leader."

For some students, it's not about what choices ASG member's make in private, it is what illegal actions they choose to make and how that represents the student body. With ASG's annual 'Alcohol Awareness Week' on the calendar for spring term, questions in regards to ASG's ability to promote appropriate alcohol use is in question.

"I'm shocked that these leaders would ask students to be responsible with alcohol when they can't even follow the laws put in place to promote alcohol safety," said student Tyler West. "There is a reason we have a drinking age, it was put in place by people to protect people and our student leaders don't seem to respect that law. If they don't respect the laws we have, how will they respect anything? How can they assume that we should respect them?"

According to Fava, the event is not to tell students not to drink underage; instead it is to increase awareness of alcohol's affects and dangers.

"We are trying to reach out to stu-

facebook

Home Profile Friends Inbox

Settings

Whitney Johnson's Photos - Hangin with the "Co-Workers"

Photo 13 of 28 | Back to Album | Whitney's Profile



Who was I yelling at?? Wait who did I not yell at hahaha

From the album:

Screen shot from Johnson's Facebook page

ASG President Michael Vu, Grants Officer Whitney Johnson and Campus Activities Officer Kyle Doran sitting in Johnson's house at the party.

dents to have them be aware of the harsh effects of alcohol..." said Fava, "there is no way to drink in a smart manner but you can be as responsible as you possibly can with it... I would support anybody who chooses not to drink and people who choose to drink as long as they are safe about it."

At this point, those in the photos will

not be punished according to the administration. ASG advisor Mindy Brown said that she had yet to investigate the photos and whether or not a violation of school policy occurred. If there was a violation, there would be an internal process to deal with it.

"There is nothing I can say until I talk to the students," said Brown.

SOCIAL: What employers want

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Last year, former member of *The Print* and Clackamas student Benjamin Caldwell was detained by police and held under a police officer hold after posting articles on Myspace.com that were deemed "threatening" at the time by authorities.

Although legal charges were never pressed against Caldwell, his reputation was tarnished and he was expelled from the school due to the posts.

Even though Caldwell was probably not considering his all encompassing audience at the moment, the story gives credence to a rule of thumb for the Internet.

"Just don't put anything on that you don't want everyone to see," Zulke stressed.

Zuelke and Blessman both have high hopes, however, for how the Internet and especially social networking could be used in a positive light.

"Wouldn't it be great to use Myspace as a marketing tool?" Zulke asked enthusiastically.

Blessman and Zuelke say that showing an interest into careers, industries and education through a social networking profile is a great way to bolster your chances of getting a job or an acceptance letter.

"Employers want critical and free thinkers but they don't want risk takers, or those who engage in risky behavior," Blessman elaborated.

Anyone who is online may always be under the microscope but that doesn't mean they have to hide who they are, according to Blessman.

"To let an employer know you're an active, engaged, fun loving person is fine. To show humor and breadth is fine," said Blessman and then added half jokingly, "It's just not a good idea to let your employer know you won the drinking party."

Ways to clean up your social networking profile and boost internet reputation:

-Get rid of bad language. Schools and businesses are looking for professionalism.

-Do not insult or demean others. Businesses don't want to hire jerks.

-Do not display illegal activities. That's what a private life is for.

-Show an interest in your field. Industries dig a worker who loves his or her job.

-Try networking with others who have similar interests.

-Do not brag about dangerous activities - businesses don't like big risk takers.

Editorial: Students government needs scrutiny

There are four branches of government: Executive, legislative, judicial and the lesser recognized watchdog of the press, public media.

Recently, *The Print* was confronted with an issue of ethics and we were forced to make a choice in what was the best way to respond to the incident.

Pictures of some members of the school's Associated Student Government (ASG) drinking underage at a party off campus were sent anonymously to the editors of *The Print*. After a discussion, we decided to pub-

lish the pictures with an article attached explaining the situation and giving fair representation to all sides.

Criticism has been made that *The Print* has a vendetta against the college's ASG. This is not only because of the recent coverage involving ASG members drinking underage outside of school, but also due to stories that were printed throughout the last few terms regarding questionable practices within the ASG - including ignoring Oregon public meeting laws and ousting an ASG presidential candidate shortly

before an election.

The Print's continuing coverage of ASG's actions are a simple matter of fulfilling the system of checks and balances that are the foundation of a healthy democracy.

Government cannot properly function without the media, and the media is helpless without a government allowing it to speak.

We are aware that this is just a college news association and college student government, but both institutions are here to serve the needs of the people on campus.

We have chosen to run these photos and the story from this party, because we felt it was our duty to inform the student body that some of their leaders are participating in illegal activity and posting the evidence in a public domain.

We realize that ASG is a necessary liaison between the interest's of students and the schools administration. It is just as necessary however, for the students on campus to understand what their representatives are portraying about themselves and our college, on or off campus.

Campus Events

Thursday
Feb. 4

Chrysalis: Women Writers, noon

Friday
Feb. 2

Sustainability Project: webcast and "The First 100 Days"

Saturday
Feb. 7

CCC Basketball vs Linn-Benton (away)
Women's game: 4 p.m.
Men's game: 6 p.m.

Monday
Feb. 9

Winter Unistus Concerts, 7:30 p.m. Job Seeker Information Sessions, noon

Wednesday
Feb. 11

ASG Valentine's Flowers and Balloon Sales, 10:00 a.m.