2018-2019
Community Standards
Annual Report

Ecce Quam Bonum
Behold, how good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!
Psalm 133:1
The University Motto
1868  2018
Students, faculty, and staff voluntarily enter into membership in the University community and, in so doing, assume obligations of performance and behavior reasonably expected by that community for the purpose of furthering its mission, vision, processes, and functions. Students accept the expectations and policies set forth in the EQB Guide and other university rules, regulations, and policies when they are admitted to the University.

In order to carry out its mission, the University promotes and enforces appropriate rules, regulations, and policies and takes action when violations of such rules, regulations, and policies occur. Please be aware that the Code of Conduct is only available via the Internet as a part of the EQB Guide. The Dean of Students' Office oversees community standards, please contact the Dean of Students' Office at 931.598.1229 or email dstudent@sewanee.edu.

**MISSION**

**AREAS OF FOCUS**

**INCIDENTS**
Type, amount and frequency of incidents of student misconduct

**SANCTIONS**
Type, when assigned and description of sanctions to change behavior

**IMPACT**
Community impact and how policy and/or sanctions may be updated in future years

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This year we saw a sharp increase in drug related violations and in medical amnesty cases. Because of these concerning trends, the dean of students’ office will prepared a robust educational campaign to alert students to the risks in marijuana use and to share more about how students are suspended from Sewanee.

While medical amnesty is provided with the intent for students to ask for assistance, there is a concerning recidivism rate among students transported for alcohol overdose (11 students in 2018-19). While we will continue to publicize this amnesty policy, we will also work to evaluate students who need assistance.

**INCIDENT SNAPSHOT**

This chart shows the overall conduct statistics from Advent 2015-Easter 2019; including the total # violations and more specifically #AOD violations. Provided for comparable purposes only.

**COMPARATIVE STATISTICS**

4 OUT OF 10 students were involved in violations of policy in 2018-2019 and of those 67% were male.
YEAR IN REVIEW

The overall incidents of misconduct for 2018-19 are similar to the prior two academic years; while the number of alcohol and drug related violations continues to increase each year (+11% in 2018-19). Some areas of particular interest are highlighted in this report.

REPEAT VIOLATIONS

Of interest are those students who violate policies more than once per year and those who repeatedly violate the same policies. In 2018-19, there were 51 students who had more than 1 incident/case and 24 students who had more than 2 incidents/cases.

BY ORGANIZATION

Student organizations, namely fraternities, may have repeat violations including: trash in their yard, noise, social host policy / alcohol at event issues, and some more significant violations. Statuses of all organizations can be found on Engage.
26% of students eligible for Conduct Forgiveness completed the hours needed by June 2019.

$53K total generated in fines from individual students and student organizations in 2018-19.
In 2018-19, of those students charged with violations of the EQB, 91% were found responsible. This graph shows a breakdown of the charges with responsible findings by prevalence.

This chart shows the number of overall violations by classification.

Please note - the system was set to these categories for 2018-19 and will be updated to reflect expected graduation year in the future.
Spikes in misconduct trends are congruent with annual events and seasonal "party" culture at Sewanee. Alcohol and drug prevention education will move to EVERFI, the leading source of online prevention courses for college students. Fines paid by individuals are allocated for alcohol and drug prevention efforts, sexual misconduct education, sanction classes and more. Title IX and sexual misconduct cases are not included in this report.

Of the 1229 charges issued for violations of the EQB and other University policies, 91% were found responsible for the violation. There were 715 unique cases / incidents reported. 9 out of 10 students admitted to violating policies during the conduct process. Conduct forgiveness was assigned in 92 cases and only 26% completed the hours as assigned.

85% of students completed the alcohol and consent & respect educational online courses to reduce and prevent issues of sexual assault and alcohol misuse.

32 mutual no contact orders were issued as a limit to communication while allowing continued study.

182 students completed alcohol and drug misuse prevention education as a result of a violation of University policy.

36 estimated number of students who utilized the appeals process to have their case reviewed.

OVERVIEW

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total students who completed an alcohol and/or drug assessment with a licensed counselor. Of these, more than 80% went on to complete a form of counseling.

students were suspended this year, with the majority of the suspensions resulting from felony drug charges or repetitive violations involving drugs.

total students who completed an online intervention for alcohol and marijuana use. Of the 46 students who completed Marijuana 101, more than 40 claimed to have learned something that would assist them in reducing use.

students were issued warnings for minor violations such as noise in the residence hall and/or drinking alcohol in a public display over the age of 21.
ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUG EDUCATION

This is the time to re-evaluate prevention education at Sewanee to address alcohol binging, marijuana use and prescription drug misuse. By launching EVERFI modules focused on preventing alcohol overdose, bystander behavior, and knowing the facts about sexual misconduct and marijuana, we are posed to move the needle on some of the issues impacting retention.

By knowing what issues exist, Sewanee can leverage our strengths to combat unhealthy behaviors and encourage thriving on campus. Students are looking for information and we have it to give. By partnering with the University Wellness Center, we will host Alcohol Skills Training programs and offer more alcohol and drug related conversations on campus next year.

NATIONAL TRENDS

This year saw increases in states legalizing and decriminalizing cannabis at high rates, with little to no education for young people on the effects of cannabis long-term. Additionally, alcohol remains the single largest issue plaguing college age students and college campuses nationwide with 1,519 deaths per year (NIAAA, 2017). Students reported feeling more stress, anxiety and depression than in years passed and they were open about using drugs illegally to cope. This is in line with national trends of opioid abuse increasing by 300% since 1998 and 1 in 4 colleges report issues with opioid misuse (CollegePrevention.org).
According to Wikipedia, an annual report is a comprehensive report on an organization’s activities throughout the preceding year. Annual reports are intended to give interested people information. I hope this document has provided you with insight into the community standards at The University of the South and how policies have been enforced. We have also attempted to share some data regarding national trends for your perspective.

The Sewanee community is a special one, where faculty, staff and students live together on a 13,000 acre domain. We aim to provide students with the guidance, support and accountability to allow them to thrive during their college years. The EQB Guide allows our community standards to be transparent and communicated in a way that students can understand. We do not assume a legal process but rather a place where learning from mistakes is valued.

The University takes misconduct seriously and aims to have an approach to sanctioning that serves the whole community with safety as the guiding factor. Always.

RACHEL L. CHAMPAGNE
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY STANDARDS