

Contact: Drew Hunter, (303) 871-0901, drew@bacchusnetwork.org, www.iatf.org
February 16, 2009 | For Immediate Release

Inter-Association Task Force on Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Issues Celebrates 25 Years

Remains the leading voice for higher education on critical student success issue

Washington, DC (Feb. 16, 2009)—The Inter-Association Task Force on Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Issues, higher education's longest running coalition addressing substance abuse, celebrated its 25th anniversary by reaffirming its mission as the leading, independent voice on this critical student success issue.

Recognizing the importance of continuing to stay vigilant on alcohol and other substance abuse issues, representatives from nearly 20 different higher education associations participated in its biannual meeting to address the current state of the field.

The meeting took place February 6, 2009, at The American Council on Education headquarters in Washington D.C.

The Task Force first met in 1983 to provide leadership for campuses to address the many changes associated with the then national move toward the 21-year-old drinking age. Since then, the Task Force has met twice a year to help develop initiatives and unify the higher education community response to these issues. Highlights of its work include:

- Created and disseminated model campus alcohol policies for adoption on every college campus in the United States.
- Developed the first guidelines targeting alcohol advertising and marketing on college campuses.
- Developed National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week annually for the last 25 years. This is higher education's largest event to address alcohol abuse, recognized and supported with programming by more than 1,000 campuses annually.
- Hosted two national Symposiums on high risk drinking on college campuses and published proceedings for the higher education community.
- Supported a national awards program recognizing campuses for outstanding, comprehensive programming to address the alcohol issue.
- Supported efforts initiated in the 1990's by the U.S. Department of Education to address this issue through campus grants under the FIPSE program throughout the 1990's through today and the creation of the Higher Education Center on Alcohol and Other Drug Issues.
- Supported better training and education opportunities on alcohol and other substance abuse issues for campus based professionals working with students.
- Assists in the promotion of research-based, effective strategies to address alcohol and other substance abuse issues.

Task Force Member Associations

American Association of State Colleges and Universities

American Council on Education

American College Health Association

c/o The BACCHUS Network / P.O. Box 100430 / Denver, CO 80250

American College Personnel Association (Cont'd on page 2)
Association of College and University Housing Officers – International
Association of Fraternity Advisors
The BACCHUS Network
Fraternity Executives Association
Golden Key International Honour Society
International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators
National Association for Campus Activities
National Association of Student Personnel Administrators
National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges
National Athletic Trainers Association
National Collegiate Athletic Association
National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association
North-American Interfraternity Conference
National Panhellenic Conference
Order of Omega

Associate Members

The National Social Norms Institute
The Network