

**Date: May, 2007**

**To: PGSP Students, Faculty & Staff**

**From: Allen Calvin**

**Re: SUBSTANCE ABUSE**

College and university campuses may be particularly vulnerable to the abuse of alcohol and other drugs. I urge each of you to read this information and to support our promotion of low-risk, healthy choices concerning the use of alcohol and other drugs. As members of this School Community we must share in the work of solving this problem. I hope you will lend support to this effort.

This is a summary of the School's policies and programs relating to substance abuse on our campus. This information is sent to you annually as a requirement of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1965, amended 1989, and the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988. Schools that receive federal funds in any form are required to comply with the above acts. We must take affirmative steps to prohibit the unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession, and use of controlled substances in the workplace.

Should you have any questions, students please call the Vice President of Student Services (650) 843-3418; faculty should call the Vice President of Academic Affairs (650) 843-3530 and staff should call the Director of Human Resources (650) 843-3416.

#### **STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

PGSP students, faculty and staff will comply with federal, state and local laws governing the use of alcohol and drugs on the PGSP campus and as part of School activities.

It is the responsibility of every student, faculty and staff member to report incidents involving infractions of federal, state and local drug and alcohol laws on campus, or at School activities, to the Director of Human Resources or Vice President of Student Services.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF APPLICABLE LEGAL SANCTIONS**

Criminal penalties for trafficking are dependent upon several conditions including the substance, amount, and whether the matter is a first offense or repeated offense for an individual or other legal entity. Penalties involve monetary sanctions and/or prison terms up to and including life in prison.

The California Alcoholic Beverage Control Act protects the safety, welfare, health, peace, and morals of Californians, eliminates the unlicensed and unlawful manufacture, sale and disposal of alcoholic beverages, and promotes temperance in the consumption and use of alcoholic beverages. (Bus. And Prof. Code 23001) A person convicted of a violation of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor or felony depending upon the violation.

The California Uniform Controlled Substances Act divides controlled substances into five schedules, which may be found in sections 11053-11058.

### **DESCRIPTION OF HEALTH RISKS**

Alcohol: When alcohol is abused, the consequences to the body can be severe. All systems of the body are affected. The effects on the central nervous system include poor memory, premature aging of the brain and loss of reasoning ability. There is also the possibility of an increase of cancer of the mouth, larynx and the esophagus along with the possibility of heart rhythm disturbances, as well as significant liver damage.

Marijuana: Users often have chronic bronchitis and run the added risk of lung cancer. Heavy users may show slow and confused thinking, loss of energy, abdominal cramps and diarrhea. Other side effects associated with marijuana are chromosome damage, decreased levels of the male sex hormone, and brain damage.

Cocaine: Cocaine abusers often have a stuffy, runny nose with eczema around the nostrils and possible perforation of the nasal septum. Cocaine can also cause delirium, hallucinations, blurred vision, severe chest pain, muscle spasms, convulsions, and death.

Amphetamines: These drugs can cause a very rapid or irregular heart beat, tremors, loss of coordination, collapse, even death from heart failure or from burst blood vessels in the brain. Heavy users are prone to irrational acts.

Heroin: This is an opiate drug that causes diminished pain reactions. Some of the risks associated with heroin include slowing of the heart rate to coma or death, chronic constipation and depression of male and female sex hormones.

PGSP students are encouraged to seek assistance for drug and alcohol problems through their family physicians or the PGSP Clinic Director who can refer them to appropriate resources (community or private agencies) that provide complete, confidential substance abuse counseling.

### **STATEMENTS OF DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS**

*Students* who have violated laws governing the use of alcohol and illicit drugs will be subject to sanctions ranging from suspension up to and including expulsion and, where appropriate may be referred for prosecution.

*Staff/Faculty members* of PGSP may be subject to disciplinary actions, up to and including dismissal, and may be required, at the discretion of PGSP, to participate satisfactorily in a rehabilitation program as a condition of employment or re-employment. Violating California State statutes may also subject the staff member to criminal prosecution for violation of this policy.

Students/Staff/Faculty challenging the imposition of such sanctions may appeal through the grievance process as outlined in the appropriate *PGSP Handbook*.

