



The State University of New York
Student Assembly

**Campus Safety Committee
Academic Affairs Committee**

State University Plaza, N501
353 Broadway, Albany, NY 12246
P: (518) 320-1288 | F: (518) 320-1557
www.sunysa.org

RESOLUTION

TO: Members of the Executive Committee

FROM: Jennalyn Long, Chair of Campus Safety
Jacob Tower, co-chair of Campus Safety
Patrick Gareau, Chair of Academic Affairs

DATE: October 31st 2015

SUBJECT: Drug and Alcohol Awareness Education

Action Requested We the Students of the State University of New York Student Assembly request that there is universal curriculum on drug and alcohol awareness be created and added to freshman seminar/orientation classes that will help educate all students on the effects of using substances, as well as any resources available to them.

Resolution

I recommend that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNYSA) adopt the following resolution:

Whereas according to a 2012 survey conducted by Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) there has been 1,846 deaths in New York due to heroin overdoses;

Whereas data collected by National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) in a 2005 analysis of surveys show that 22.9% of college students met the criteria of substance abuse;

Whereas there is currently no mandated uniform curriculum in New York covering drug use and abuse;

Whereas Freshmen come from diverse backgrounds, therefore they are not given the same information regarding substance abuse and preventative measures;

Whereas the opportunity to experiment in one's first time away from home with new freedoms can lead to detrimental effects due to one's lack of understanding of what drugs could do,

Whereas first year students are already mandated to take a freshman seminar;

Whereas education about substance abuse, overdoses and preventative measures should be extension of the seminar;

Whereas it would be in the best interest for campuses and students for resident assistants to attend workshops about handling overdoses;

Resolved that we the students of the Student Assembly call for SUNY to add information about substance abuse and preventative measures to the first year student seminar curriculum;

Resolved that we request that an AD Hoc committee be formed consisting of faculty and students with the charge of developing the aforementioned curriculum;

Resolved that once a curriculum that is unbiased and informative in nature, it shall be added to first year seminars to in an effort to limit the overuse and abuse of drugs and alcohol;

Resolved that all students are made aware of their legal rights and in the event of an incident, an Emergency Contact will be notified;

Resolved that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Lt. Governor Kathleen C. Hochul, the members of the New York State Legislature, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, SUNY Assistant Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs Sally Crimmins Villela, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.