



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

UNIVERSITY SENATE

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November 5, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Boden Sandstrom
Chair, Senate Student Conduct Committee

FROM: William Montgomery
Chair, University Senate

SUBJECT: Proposal on Discipline and Calls for Emergency Medical Service
(Senate Document Number 07-08-20)

I recently received a "Good Samaritan" proposal from Anastacia Cosner, who is an undergraduate student senator and a member of your committee. I brought Ms. Cosner's proposal to the attention of the Senate Executive Committee at its meeting on October 25. After a short discussion, the Executive Committee decided to charge the Senate Student Conduct Committee with reviewing the attached document because it might eventuate in a change to the Code of Student Conduct. Changes relating to the Code of Student Conduct normally fall under the purview of your committee.

Please send me your report on Ms. Cosner's proposal by or before Wednesday, February 13, 2008. In the course of your examination of this document you may want to consider the rules and practices of our peers and comparable institutions relating to students who call for emergency medical services because of alcohol or drug use. If you have any questions about this charge, please contact Dr. Mary Giles by phone on extension 5-5804, or by email at mgiles@umd.edu.

WLM:mdg

✓ cc: Vera McCoy-Espinoza

Attachment

From: "Anastacia Cosner" <anastaciacosner@gmail.com>
Date: October 20, 2007 8:38:16 PM EDT
To: wlm@umd.edu
Subject: Request for Senate review of policy - discipline & calls for emergency medical services

Dear Dr. Montgomery,

My name is Anastacia and I am an undergraduate Senator representing the College of Arts and Humanities, I am also President of Students for Sensible Drug Policy at the University of Maryland. I have been doing quite a bit of research on an issue commonly referred to as "Good Samaritan" policies as an option to reduce harm to our students.

I write to request Senate review of disciplinary policies that apply to students who call for Emergency Medical Services for a drug or alcohol related illness or overdose. Studies have shown that implementation of such "Good Samaritan" policies increase 911 calls in the area - in this case, the campus community. It is in the opinions of many of my fellow undergraduate senators that students should never be deterred from or hesitate to call for help because of fear of disciplinary action. I would recommend that an amendment be made to the Code of Conduct that would exempt such individuals from judicial action (such as for the possession or use of any substance – including alcohol, as well as other "harder" drugs) if they call for medical assistance for themselves or a friend.

I look forward to your response, and would be more than happy to discuss this issue at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Anastacia Cosner

Anastacia Cosner
University of Maryland, College Park
Senator, College of Arts and Humanities
President, Students for Sensible Drug Policy
Secretary, SSDP Board of Directors

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