

# Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center

## Monthly Resource Alert

### March 2006



11710 Beltsville Drive ■ Suite 300 ■ Calverton, MD 20705 ■ Toll Free 877-335-1287

Please visit [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org) for the latest information on underage drinking enforcement, prevention, and reduction.

#### Have you Registered???? Call for Presentations!!!

This year's conference, *Charting the Course: Promoting Innovation through Leadership*, will be held on August 24-26, 2006, in Baltimore, MD! Workshop proposals are due April 10<sup>th</sup> (more info to come!). Rooms at the hotel are going quickly, so visit our Website at [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org) to book your room and/or register for the conference. Early bird deadline for registration is July 14.

#### Conference Will Feature Experiential Learning Exercises

Make sure you register for the experiential learning activities for law enforcement and prevention professionals at this year's conference. Be on the lookout for more information in the official conference brochure.

#### National Youth Program Debuts at National Leadership Conference

This year's National Leadership Conference will include the debut of a national youth development program. The youth track at this year's conference promises to ignite the passion and knowledge of young people who want to carry the message of living a drug-free life! A special track for those working with youth also will be featured. More information will be available in the upcoming conference brochure.

#### Youth, Drinking and...the Internet?

Recently, blogging has become a sport, not just a passive moment spent at the computer. Youth are often active on Websites that provide an outlet for young people to "meet" and share information—sometimes too much information. Recently websites caused trouble for some youth because they posted what appeared to be underage drinking party photos on well-known youth blog site. When working with parents, encourage them to monitor their child's internet usage. When working with youth, remind them that the internet does not protect them from trouble or from encountering individuals who would do them harm. For more information on this topic, go to [www.mercurynews.com/mlid/mercurynews/news/local/13837874.htm](http://www.mercurynews.com/mlid/mercurynews/news/local/13837874.htm).

#### National Audio Call: A Global Look at Youth Drinking

How does youth drinking in the U.S. compare to other countries? Presenters on our March 23 audio-teleconference call will provide some insights on this question. They will share data and discuss whether youth in other parts of the world drink less and experience fewer problems than their American counterparts. To register visit [www.udetc.org/Registration.asp](http://www.udetc.org/Registration.asp)

#### St. Patrick's Day Festivities—Can They Be Alcohol-Free?

St. Patrick's Day, has its roots in celebrating the life of a saint who, after being sold into slavery as a pagan, found Christianity and returned to his homeland of Ireland to attempt to convert the country to his new-found religion. Today, St. Patrick's Day often is seen as a holiday that is surrounded by the use of alcohol during festivals and parties. Youth are often bombarded by alcohol promotions associated with this holiday and do not have many other options. Consider planning and promoting alcohol-free events for youth in your community on St. Patrick's Day and send the message that 21 means 21. Tips for throwing or allowing a child to attend a party can be found at: <http://madd.org/under21/2710>.

#### Need Alcohol Statistics for the African-American Population?

For statistics related to African-Americans and alcohol, go to [www.madd.org/stats/10537](http://www.madd.org/stats/10537).

#### Success Story: Oklahoma

In September 2004, the University of Oklahoma (OU) announced new alcohol policies that completely ban drinking in the school's fraternity houses and residence halls. The new rules took effect on January 18, 2005. This month's Success story shares the positive results of an effective policy.

To print a hard-copy of this month's Resource Alert visit: [www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/ResourceAlert0306.pdf](http://www.udetc.org/documents/ResourceAlerts/ResourceAlert0306.pdf)

*The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the Office of Juvenile Justice for Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) or the Underage Drinking Enforcement Training Center (UDET) and are solely of the author/source.*

#### Did U Know...?

- 23 States and DC have passed Keg Registration laws?
- 32 States have Social Host laws?
- 41 States and DC have laws supporting the use of Sobriety Checkpoints?
- 37 States and DC have adopted "attempt to purchase" laws?

#### Helpful Website Information

UDET promotes the use of volunteers in its Controlled Party Dispersal trainings. Law enforcement is imperative in the fight against underage drinking and we should learn how to support them in keeping our communities safe. For information on volunteering with law enforcement visit [www.policevolunteers.org](http://www.policevolunteers.org).



# Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

## AUDIO CONFERENCE

### TOPIC

#### A Global Look at Youth Drinking:

There is a commonly held perception among Americans that youth in the U.S. drink more frequently and experience more alcohol-related problems than do their counterparts in other parts of the world. This perception is often utilized as argument for changes in U.S. alcohol policies and prevention initiatives, including elimination of the minimum drinking age laws and development of programs that teach "responsible" drinking. Presenters will provide data and discuss whether youth in other parts of the world drink less and experience fewer problems than their American counterparts.



### DATE

Thursday, March 23, 2006

### TIME

3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time

### PRESENTER

**Wim van Dalen, MSc**

*Director*

STAP (National Foundation for Alcohol Prevention)

The Netherlands

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**Dr. Joao Breda**

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### WEB ENHANCED

*Internet users will be able to log on to our conference web page to view presentation slides and interact with other participants.*

### REGISTER

**Please register by using one of our automated options:**

- **To register on our website**, please visit [www.udtcp.org](http://www.udtcp.org) and complete the online registration form, or
- **To register by phone**, please call our toll-free number, 1-877-335-1287, extension 230, and follow the prompts.

**Telephone dial-in instructions and accompanying materials for the audio conference will be mailed one (1) week before the call.**



# National Electronic Seminars Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

The OJJDP Audio-**T E L E C O N F E R E N C E** Series

**March 23, 2006**      **3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**  
***A Global Look at Youth Drinking:***

There is a commonly held perception among Americans that youth in the U.S. drink more frequently and experience more alcohol-related problems than do their counterparts in other parts of the world. This perception is often utilized as argument for changes in U.S. alcohol policies and prevention initiatives, including elimination of the minimum drinking age laws and development of programs that teach "responsible" drinking. Presenters will provide data and discuss whether youth in other parts of the world drink less and experience fewer problems than their American counterparts.

**April 20, 2006**      **3:00-4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**  
***Strategies for High Risk Events - Prom & Graduation:***

Proms and graduations should be marked as joyous occasions for youth, parents and other adult allies. These events are highlights of young lives and often produce memories that last for a lifetime. However, there are risks that are involved when prom and graduation, youth and alcohol are mixed- whether it be the prom after-party that leads to a deadly car crash or "first week" at the beach where an alcohol-induced party creates an at-risk environment where youth, strategies can be implemented in an effort to make these events safer. Just knowing the risks that, unfortunately, do come with proms and graduations can help communities plan effectively for safer celebrations. We encourage adults and youth to participate in this National Electronic Seminar. If you know of a parent who will be sending their child to a prom or graduation, please invite them to as well!

**May 18, 2006**      **3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**  
***Mobilizing Native American Communities to Confront Underage Drinking:***

This audio-call will assist Native American communities with a process to mobilize the various segments of the community (business, school, religious, media, families, and other community members) to plan and implement strategies to confront underage drinking. Participants will develop an understanding of why mobilizing requires community ownership of the process and why data gathering is necessary to identify local priorities.

**June 15, 2006**      **3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**  
***Using Media to Maximize Success :***

This audio-call will focus on initiating or enhancing underage drinking prevention efforts by developing media campaigns that lead to sustainable changes in the way a community views and responds to underage drinking. Presenters will provide an overview of how core components of a campaign fit together with examples of and solutions to common pitfalls. Participants will develop a solid understanding of the importance of developing campaign timelines and media advocacy plans.

**July 20, 2006**      **3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**  
***Engaging Resident Assistants (RAs) in Reducing Underage Drinking:***

Colleges and universities play a vital role in affecting the social norms and attitudes about alcohol use within campus environments. Most campuses are challenged with a large portion of their student body being comprised of youth under the legal drinking age of 21 and easy access to alcohol. Join us in learning how residential life systems can engage and empower their residential life staff in fostering a healthier, safer, and legal campus environment.

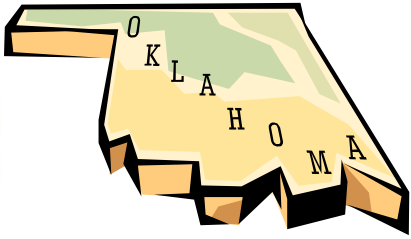
**September 21, 2006**      **3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Eastern Time**  
***Action Through the Eyes of Youth:***

In the prevention of underage drinking, in order to be effective, we must include the voices of Youth and understand the problem through their eyes. There are a number of youth groups and coalitions working towards changing the environment that invites and sustains underage drinking. There are many examples of successful youth taking the lead and making positive changes in the social, legal and economic environments where young people make decisions about alcohol. In this audio-call you will hear from YOUTH who will share their accomplishments and challenges with these efforts. Through this audio call the audience will understand that in working through a solution to prevent underage drinking we must recognize the Action through the eyes of youth!

**For audio-conference registration information, please visit [www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org)**

All programs provide opportunities for presentation, discussion and sharing information. Telephone dial-in instructions and accompanying materials will be mailed to registrants two weeks before the audio conference.

*To register for any of these free electronic seminars by phone, call toll-free 1-877-335-1287 extension 230*



# Success Stories

Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws Program

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

[www.udetc.org](http://www.udetc.org)

March 2006

## Oklahoma University's Alcohol Policy has positive results.

Following the death of a freshman from alcohol poisoning in September 2004, the University of Oklahoma (OU) announced new alcohol policies that completely ban drinking in the school's fraternity houses and residence halls. The new rules took effect on January 18, 2005, at the start of the new semester. According to the University's President David Boren, students with three alcohol violations will now be suspended for one semester. "These policies send a strong signal that alcohol abuse will not be tolerated at the University of Oklahoma," Boren said.

Since January 18, 2005, when the OU banned drinking on campus, vandalism incidents are down in Greek community houses, according to Clarke Stroud, the University's Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students. OU's alcohol policy is making a difference. Stroud said, "I think the community is really being accepting of the new policy. There have been positive changes." He also commented that the Beta Theta Pi fraternity renovated its basement where drinking parties were held. The change is one example of what has been going on across campus. Stroud said, "We're seeing alumni putting money back into the houses because vandalism is down...We are seeing a real change in behavior, an indication we are making an impact." He believes that since OU banned alcohol, the University has been giving strikes to students and organizations that violate the policy or are convicted for alcohol-related offenses such as being a minor in possession of alcohol or being intoxicated in public. For a first offense, students can be fined \$75, for a second offense, \$150; and for a third offense, expulsion.

The Board of Regents made some changes to the alcohol policy in December, according to Stroud. The word "fine" was changed to "fee." Also, no strikes or fees are given until a case is adjudicated

with a conviction in municipal or State court. So far, OU has given 308 first-time strikes and 10 second-time strikes to individuals. No one has been given a third strike. Police routinely investigate loud party calls and write municipal citations to people who are violating the city's nuisance party ordinance. Lt. J.D. Younger (Norman Police Department) indicated that, since OU banned alcohol, the number of calls to off-campus parties has not significantly increased. He said, "It's been static at best. It seems to be about the same." Sgt. Gary Robinson supported Younger's comments. "We don't discern any noticeable increase," he said. "OU police continue to beef up their patrols in police cars and on foot on campus."

Robinson also mentioned that students who drink off-campus can still be arrested when they return to campus. Some parts of dormitories are patrolled for those who can be arrested on complaints of public intoxication. OU students also must complete alcohol awareness training. Stroud further added that 100 percent of new students completed online alcohol training courses and 94 percent of new freshmen have had in-person alcohol awareness training. OU President David Boren deserves the credit for the new alcohol policy. "We have, without a doubt, the most comprehensive alcohol program in the country," Stroud said. "The president has really taken a bold step."

**Source:** Associated Press reported Dec. 2, 2005, Daily Oklahoman, Jan. 26, 2006

**For further information contact:** Ronnie Thompson  
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