

**From:** The Network Addressing Collegiate Alcohol and Other Drug Issues  
<contact@thenetwork.ws>

**Subject:** News from the Front

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## The Network: News from the Front

*Good Decisions Begin with Accurate Information*

### The Network

The Network is a national consortium of IHE professionals aimed at sharing and disseminating information to help curb alcohol and other drug abuse as well as violent behavior among college students. Begun in 1987 by the US Department of Education, the Network is a voluntary membership organization whose member institutions agree to adhere to a set of standards aimed at reducing alcohol and other drug problems. It now has over 1,500 members. For more information on The Network, visit <http://thenetwork.ws>

### Trivia

***"What is the single most littered item in the world?"***

**Issue: # 11**

**November 2nd, 2007**

Network Members:

As you receive this addition of News From the Front, many of our colleagues in California are settling back into their homes and jobs after enduring loss or the threat of loss from the fires that raged so fiercely in the San Diego area. I heard from San Diego folks who wore masks so that they could breathe in the air in their smoke and ash filled suburbs; who thought their children (who were sent home from school and unable to play outside) would drive them crazy; and from those who watched the National Guard and the flames get closer and closer to their homes. I also heard stories about students who spent endless hours volunteering to help squelch the fires or to aid those displaced by them, and I heard of people opening their homes to those who no longer had one. To each of you touched by the recent events in Southern California, our hearts go out to you and we in The Network wish you well as the imminent danger subsides.

Sincerely,  
Carla Lapelle, Chair  
The Network

world?"

## Volunteer Profile

**Name:** Rosie Calderon  
**Position:** RD  
**Region:** PR-VI  
**Title:** Health Services Director  
**Email:** [rcalderon@uprm.edu](mailto:rcalderon@uprm.edu)  
[u](#)

**How The Network is beneficial to members:** "It gives us the opportunity to share experiences in the field, keep us up to date in the area of alcohol, other drugs, and violence in higher education. The Network allows us to know the latest in relation to the HEC and USDE, their policies, grant opportunities etc."

## Online Resources

**Online training in Motivational Interviewing:** This is a free (registration required) online training in MI. Visit

[Link](#)

**Working with Young People:** This is a comprehensive site with links to many useful tools when doing counseling with "young people."

[Link](#)

**Study Skills Resources:** Virginia Tech has a great collection of resources on study skills and addressing study-related issues faced by students. Visit

[Link](#)

## Spinning the Science: What's Good for the Goose may be Good for the Gander

By Robert J. Chapman, PhD, Drexel University

For some time developmental psychologists have told us that adolescence is marked by risk taking. New brain research seems to not only back this up, but suggest that we are hardwired for risk taking. Be that as it may, science has documented the efficacy of one approach to reducing high-risk student behavior (BASICS): Might this approach be applicable to another high-risk student behavior...online social networks like FaceBook and MySpace?

At the recent U.S. Department of Education's National Meeting on Alcohol, Other Drugs, and Violence Prevention in Higher Education conference in Omaha, an invited workshop, presented by Thomas Workman from University of Houston-Downtown and the author, was conducted. This workshop updated information on student involvement in online social networking sites presented the previous year at the same conference held in Washington, D.C. Along with an update on changes in student use of these social networks, attendees were presented suggestions for discussing potential risks associated with such student-use of the Internet:

1. It is important to understand student involvement with online communities. As with collegiate drinking, not all students use online communities. Of those who do, not all engage in high-risk use. Of those who engage in high-risk use, they exist along a continuum of *stages of readiness* to *change* this behavior.

2. Where possible, social norms marketing should be used to convey *accurate* facts about use of online social networks.

[Link](#)

#### Online Case Studies:

This site presents several case studies related to alcohol use. What is interesting about each is that questions are asked for discussion as well as references to additional information.

[Link](#)

#### Record Keeping:

Have you been considering updating your record keeping techniques? or just simply looking to compare what you are doing already with what a guru on the web is suggesting?

[Link](#)

#### All Keyboard Shortcuts, all applications in one place:

AKeyxl.com is the largest online database of keyboard shortcuts in the world. It is searchable and covers all major operating environments and browser based applications.

[Link](#)

#### News from the Front Archives

#### Network BLOG

#### Powerpoint Tip: Preview Slideshow Effects

While editing a presentation, hold down the CTRL key while clicking the slide show view button; this will open a tiny preview window showing that slide in slide show mode.

3. Consider employing *BASICS* strategies to engage students in discussions regarding online practices. Consciousness raising, dramatic relief, and environmental reevaluation are the most effective strategies for *precontemplative* changers.

4. Help students find and use new facts, ideas, and strategies to promote proactive use of online communities. Facilitate a consideration of the negative emotions that can accompany high-risk or dangerous use. Recognize that change can be an important step in reconstructing one's personal identity.

To view the entire presentation PowerPoint, visit:

<http://www.robertchapman.net/NM07/Virtuالتownsquare.ppt>

#### Marin Institute: Report Alcohol Ads on your Transit System

Is your daily commute polluted with ads for beer, liquor and wine? Are logos for Big Alcohol brands plastered all over your local bus stations, train cars or outdoor platforms? Report it and Marin Institute will help expose this practice - click [here](#).

#### HEC Adds FAQ on Minimal Drinking Age

The Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention has added to the "Frequently Asked Questions" section of their Web site, which now includes questions and answers related to the minimum legal drinking age (MLDA) of 21. Ten research-based responses to these questions are highlighted, along

slide in slide show mode.

based responses to these questions are highlighted, along with a number of references and resources related to the MLDA. Click [here](#) for the link.

(News articles comes via Jess Hinkson-Desmarais)

## Parents Not as Naive as Once Thought Regarding AOD

New research results from the University at Buffalo's Research Institute on Addictions (RIA) suggest that most parents are aware of and accurately evaluate the extent of their teenager's cigarette smoking, marijuana use, drinking and overall substance use. Read more [here](#).

### Trivia Answer

Cigarette butts...to the tune of 7,000. See [Cigarettelitter.org](http://Cigarettelitter.org) for more details.

News From the Front is edited by Robert J. Chapman, PhD. Suggestions for articles, news items, and online resources are always welcomed. To submit to NTF, send email to [chapman.phd@gmail.com](mailto:chapman.phd@gmail.com). For more information on the Network, visit <http://www.thenetwork.ws>

## Calendar Events AOD-Related Online Discussion Group

If you are not a subscriber to the Drughied online (Google) discussion group, then you may want to explore the group and its web site. If you would like to participate in the discussion, subscribing is easy and all requests from .edu domains are automatically subscribed. Requests for subscription from other than .edu domains are vetted to ensure interest in the group's discussion focus and discourage spam. Visit the website:

[Http://group.google.com/group/drughied](http://group.google.com/group/drughied)

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