

TO: Earlham College Community
FROM: Doug Bennett
RE: Task Force on Alcohol
DATE: September 20, 2006

I would like to appoint a Task Force on Alcohol to make recommendations regarding how we can make our alcohol policy work better.

It has been some years since we had a community-wide consideration of matters regarding alcohol. Nearly every significant issue regarding responsible student conduct at Earlham involves alcohol to some degree, including and especially incidents of physical or sexual assault.

I ask the Task Force to consider the following questions:

- (a) How can we best inform current and future members of the community about our alcohol policy, the reasons why we have this policy, and our approach to administering the policy?
- (b) How can we educate members of the community regarding choices about alcohol use and the problems of alcohol abuse?
- (c) What should be our approach to dealing with conduct that falls short of the expectations of our alcohol policy?

Our current alcohol policy can be found at:

<http://www.earlham.edu/policies/alcohol.html>.

Over the past few months, Nelson Bingham and Deb McNish have been thinking through a new approach to implementing our alcohol policy. They now have a proposal they want to discuss more widely. I would like this Task Force to be the group that carries through these wider discussions with faculty and staff, and that develops recommendations for consideration by our regular governance processes.

I would like the Task Force to be composed as follows:

Deb McNish, Dean of Student Development
Nelson Bingham, Professor of Psychology and Special Assistant to the President
Barb Caruso, Professor of English and Women's Studies
Dan Rosenberg, Professor of Anthropology
Frank Carr, Director of Athletics
Nancy Sinex, Director of Admissions
Three students appointed by ESG: David Eisnitz, Brian (BK) Knowles, Yasmine Kuttub