

February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

To our fellow undergraduates:

As members of the Princeton community, we share a common bond, a common identity that supersedes our various affiliations with clubs, groups, and departments. As a student body five thousand strong, we define this great university. At the same time, we have the power—and the obligation—to unite and create real change, wherever change is needed.

As we have learned recently, this is especially important when it comes to the drinking culture at Princeton. We operate within a system that allows us a great deal of freedom, and we're fortunate to have an administration that's willing to work with us to shape an alcohol policy that accommodates the concerns of both the university and the student body. If we act irresponsibly, by condoning or—even worse—encouraging high-risk drinking, we create a ripple effect that endangers our fragile social structure. Therefore, we all must strive to maintain a system that is as fair and safe for the students as possible, protecting our rights while also discouraging dangerous drinking habits. The success of the alcohol policy, the eating clubs, and every aspect of our social lives at Princeton depend entirely on our own capability to demonstrate our willingness to cooperate, act responsibly, and be accountable for our actions.

We're in this together—we need to hold ourselves accountable and keep each other safe, not just through policy, but through our own individual acts. As such, we must discourage high-risk drinking wherever and whenever we see it and root out the social pressures that tempt students to engage in such behaviors. In addition, we must always heed the moral, institutional, and legal obligation to call immediately for help when high-risk drinking has put someone in danger.

In these simple but critical ways, we can have a direct influence over how the administration and the Princeton Borough respond to episodes that put students' lives at risk. All parts of the University community are working tirelessly with regards to the alcohol policy, attempting to come up with a satisfactory plan of action between the administration, the students, and the Borough. We too must do our part.

We know that things aren't perfect. But it's ultimately up to us to come forward and call for change. Being a member of the Princeton community confers upon its members enormous advantages, but also enormous responsibilities. We owe it to one another to do

everything in our power to make our time at Princeton the best it can be and to continue to make Princeton one of the greatest universities in the world, year after year.

Sincerely,

Connor Diemand-Yauman, '10

Chris Chandler, '10

Alex Man, '10

Steve Marcus, '10

Douglas Wigley, '10

Alex Brady, '10

Andres Perez, '10

Zackory Burns, '10

Aran Clair, '10

Ben Bologna, '10

Andrew Gordon, '10

Jonathan Shifke, '10

*President, USG*

*Co-Chair, Alcohol Coalition Committee*

*President, Colonial*

*President, Tower*

*President, Tiger Inn*

*President, Terrace*

*President, Cap and Gown*

*President, Quadrangle*

*President, Cloister*

*President, Cottage*

*President, Charter*

*President, Ivy*