

Response to charge to develop a process to study issues related to Evergreen becoming a smoke free campus.

Information was gathered by consulting with other universities and colleges who have implemented non smoking campuses. The following campuses responded to our request for information regarding their process to become smoke free: Oregon State University, www.oregonstate.edu/; Luther College, www.luther.edu/; University of Mississippi, www.olemiss.edu/; Pacific Lutheran University, www.plu.edu/. Information was also gathered by reviewing policies on line, attending a workshop sponsored by Tobacco Free Alliance of Pierce County (<http://www.tpchd.org/environment/community-transformation/tobacco-living/>) and reviewing resources at Tobacco Free U (<http://www.tobaccofreeu.org/index.asp>)

1. What are the appropriate definitions for a smoke free and non smoking campus?
 - a. There were three general definitions adopted by various institutions
 - i. Smoke free – included all tobacco products that produce smoke but was silent on electronic cigarettes
 - ii. Smoke free + e cigarettes – included all tobacco products that produce smoke plus e cigarettes
 - iii. Tobacco free – all tobacco products including e cigarettes and smokeless tobacco
 - b. Health & Safety committee recommendation
 - i. At a minimum the campus should define smoke free as tobacco products that produce smoke plus e cigarettes.
 1. Rationale – our current policy includes e cigarettes. Compliance becomes problematic if e cigarettes are treated differently since they look similar to traditional cigarettes. Health studies are lacking on the health effects of second hand e cigarette vapor.
 - ii. To support healthy habits and social justice, the campus should consider expanding the definition to include all tobacco and smoke producing products including smokeless tobacco and herb/clove cigarettes.
2. Are there smoke free campuses similar in size and geography to the Olympia campus?
 - a. We attempted to locate large rural campuses that had smoke free policies. Rural campus were searched using US News and Word Report survey of college campus; those identified as having smoke free policies were contacted. We were not successful in finding a good match for our unique campus layout. However the entire University of California system will be entirely smoke free as of Jan 1 2014. Attachment A shows satellite views for TESC (1003 acres), UC Davis (5300 acres), UC Santa Cruz (2000 acres), Uc San Diego (1976 acres) and UC Berkeley (1232 acres). These campuses face many of the same large campus size challenges as TESC and none will allow tobacco use anywhere on campus, including residential units and parking lots.

- an age when people are susceptible to becoming addicted could dramatically change our smoking demographics.³
- c. Allowing smoking in residential areas exposes non smokers to second hand smoke; creates separation between academic campus and residential campus; and makes compliance problematic.
 - d. We recommend a tobacco free policy extend to all campus buildings and grounds, including residence halls.
6. What investments have other campus made to facilitate the change to smoke free?
- a. Most campus surveyed provided free smoking cessation to faculty, staff and students, including nicotine replacement therapy and counseling. However most reported offering smoking cessation in one form or another prior to going smoke free. Campuses reported a small investment in signage and some hire a part time staff to facilitate a campus wide education program.
 - b. Currently TESC provides tobacco cessation to students through the health center and employees can access tobacco cessation through their health insurance. Most insurance plans cover tobacco cessation at 100% through Quit for Life. Under insured people can get help through the State funded Quit Line.
 - c. We recommend to continue offering tobacco cessation through current resources.
7. Did the campus encounter determined resistance to going smoke free and how were they successful in dealing with it?
- a. At one campus, student government passed a resolution opposing the move the smoke free. Campus administration met with student government to provide information regarding the change. Despite the resolution, there has not been student opposition since going smoke free. Another campus met the most resistance from employees. All campus recommended engaging the campus through informational sessions and meeting with student government as part of the transition.
 - b. We understand that the GSU is concerned about going tobacco free since they view such a policy as not inclusive. We recommend educating student government on the health and social justice issues surrounding tobacco production and use.
8. What exceptions to a smoke free policy would be granted?
- a. Institutions granted exceptions for cultural events and certain theatrical performances. However RCW 70.160 Smoking in Public Places does not have an exemption allowing smoking in public buildings or places of employment.
 - b. We recommend an outdoor exemption for cultural events.
9. Other issues
- a. Social Justice
 - i. Tobacco production and use is the single greatest preventable public health issue today. Tobacco farming, production and use negatively impact our environment, health and children.
 - b. AGO opinion on Initiative 901 No Smoking in Public Spaces

- i. States that employers must take reasonable steps to prohibit smoking in outdoor areas that employees must use to get to and from work.
 - ii. Also, states that employers should take reasonable measures to ensure that employees required to perform maintenance or operational work in outdoor public areas are not exposed to second-hand smoke.
 - iii. We recommend the campus move to smoke free to comply with initiative 901.
- c. Ban sale of tobacco products
 - i. The current food service contract allows Aramark to sell tobacco products on campus. The bookstore stopped selling tobacco a number of years ago. We believe any new food service vendor contract should prohibit the sale of tobacco and related products.
- d. Ban tobacco advertising and donations
 - i. We recommend the college prohibit tobacco advertising on campus and not accept any donations from tobacco producers.

10. Next Steps

- a. The Health & Safety committee recommends a survey of the campus community to gauge smoking rates, attitudes around smoking on campus and interest in adopting a different policy. A suggested draft smoking survey is attached. We recommend that the GSU, Health Center SMA or UFE implement a survey of the campus.
- b. The Student Medical Assistants in the Health Center are interested in hosting informational sessions on the social justice of tobacco production.

11. Attachments

- a. University of California Rationale for going smoke free
- b. Tobacco and Social Justice
- c. AGO opinion on Initiative 901
- d. Draft Survey
- e. Sources