

SPECIAL REPORT
of the
HEALTH COUNCIL
concerning
**A POLICY FOR A TOBACCO-FREE
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST**

Presented at the
705th Regular Meeting of the Faculty Senate
April 7, 2011

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A POLICY FOR A TOBACCO-FREE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

A Tobacco-Free UMass Amherst: Policy and Implementation Plan

I. Introduction

The use of tobacco is prohibited entirely on several flagship, public University campuses, including the Universities of Michigan, Florida, Oregon, and Indiana University; the University of Massachusetts Worcester is also a tobacco-free campus. The University of Massachusetts Amherst recognizes that tobacco use compromises the health and well-being of the entire university community. As a public institution of higher education, UMass Amherst has an obligation to promote a healthy and, hence, a tobacco-free environment for its students, employees, and visitors. A policy comprehensively prohibiting tobacco use will help educate the campus community to the dangers of using tobacco and will encourage members of our community to cease using tobacco altogether, thereby fulfilling in part the University's mission to "improve the lives of the people of the Commonwealth, the nation, and the world."

II. Policy

The University of Massachusetts Amherst shall prohibit tobacco use starting July 1, 2013. For the purpose of this policy, "tobacco" refers to any and all tobacco products, whether inhaled or ingested, as well as electronic cigarettes. The use of tobacco products shall be prohibited everywhere on campus, inside buildings and throughout the grounds. This policy applies to everyone and anyone on campus, including students, staff, faculty, contractors, and visitors.

- (1) The use of tobacco will be prohibited in all buildings and vehicles owned or leased by UMass Amherst, regardless of location.
- (2) The use of tobacco will also be prohibited on all University grounds and in any outdoor area controlled by the University. This includes all University land, parking lots and parking ramps, athletic fields, tennis courts, and recreational areas.
- (3) The use of tobacco will be prohibited inside any vehicle located on University grounds.
- (4) When any person enters the grounds of the University, any smoking material shall be extinguished and disposed of in an appropriate receptacle at the perimeter of the grounds of the University.
- (5) Enforcement of this policy will rely on the cooperation of all contractors, faculty, staff, and students not only to comply with the policy, but also to encourage others to comply, to promote a healthy environment in which to work, study, and live.
- (6) Enforcement of the policy will be the responsibility of immediate supervisors and ultimately University Human Resources; for students, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs.
- (7) The Health Council will be responsible for overseeing the policy, reviewing it from time to time, and making recommendations for amendments as appropriate.

III. Implementation

To implement this policy, the University will constitute the Tobacco-Free Campus Committee, to be appointed by the Chancellor in consultation with the Health Council. This Committee will include representatives of students, staff, faculty, and administrators. The Committee's charge will be "to promote the success of the Tobacco-Free Campus Policy." Actions that the Committee shall undertake may include (but are not limited to) the following:

- (1) The Committee will hold public forums and meetings with various stakeholders.
- (2) The Committee will spearhead the production of communication materials to promote this policy. It is suggested that the departments of communication and marketing will play significant roles in this process. The necessary communication includes clear signage, flyers, information resources, announcements, and a web page.
- (3) The Committee will oversee the deployment and enhancement of smoking-cessation resources. One goal will be to work with local health providers as well as insurance carriers to increase the presence and convenience of smoking-cessation programs here on campus. It is expected that University Health Services and Environmental Health and Safety will play significant roles in this endeavor.
- (4) The Committee will work with the administration to clarify appropriate lines of authority for managing complaints established in II (6) above.
- (5) The Committee will determine allowable exceptions (e.g., for artistic performance, research project) and the path by which approval can be obtained.
- (6) The Committee will determine whether a transitional period is indicated to move the campus more quickly towards substantial compliance with the new policy. (A transitional period might include restricting tobacco use to designated outdoor areas.)
- (7) The Committee will be constituted with authority to approve implementation plans and materials. The Committee will recommend a budget for implementation. (Likely expenditures include advertisements, flyers, signs, enhanced clean-up efforts, particularly in the first few years).
- (8) The Chancellor will designate a "lead administrator" responsible for administering this policy in consultation with the Tobacco-Free Campus Committee.

MOVED: That the Faculty Senate approve the Policy for a Tobacco-Free University of
60-11 Massachusetts Amherst, as presented in Sen. Doc. No. 11-058.