

California State University Northridge
Faculty Senate Smoke-Free Resolution
March 24, 2011

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found secondhand tobacco smoke to be a risk to public health, and has classified secondhand smoke as a group A carcinogen, the most dangerous class of carcinogen¹; the California Air Resources Board has categorized secondhand smoke as a toxic air contaminant²; and the Surgeon General of the United States has concluded that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke³.

WHEREAS, smoking kills more Americans each year than alcohol, car accidents, suicide, AIDS, homicide, and illegal drugs combined⁴.

WHEREAS, California young adults have the highest prevalence of tobacco use among any age group population at 18.0%⁵. Nationally, tobacco use on campus continues to be problematic according to the 2006 Core Survey which reports that 26.2% of college students indicated using tobacco (cigarettes, chew, or snuff) in the past 30 days and 38.5% reported using tobacco within the last year⁶.

WHEREAS, most smokers begin using tobacco as teenagers, the same study found an amazing 28% of college smokers began to smoke regularly, and 11% had their first cigarette, after age 19⁷. Internal tobacco industry documents reveal that the transition from experimentation with tobacco to becoming a confirmed smoker can occur up to the age of 25⁸.

WHEREAS, rise in college-age smoking has paralleled the tobacco industry's increased targeting of college-age young adults with advertising and promotions, like special events and give-a ways in nightclubs⁹.

WHEREAS, California Health and Safety Code Section 104420(p) requires that all public high school campuses in California be 100% tobacco-free if receiving tobacco education funding, high school students are seeing smoking on college campuses as a sign of adult "freedom" and rights of passage. A smoke-free policy would send an important health message to all incoming freshman students¹⁰.

WHEREAS, people sensitive to secondhand smoke, such as those with certain chronic illnesses, will experience immediate exacerbation of their symptoms when exposed to secondhand smoke, even outdoors¹¹.

WHEREAS, students and staff/faculty have expressed a genuine concern for the health and well-being of the campus community throughout California State University Northridge.

WHEREAS, California State University Northridge as an educational institution, has an obligation to model positive behaviors as well as being a positive example to the community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the **Faculty Senate** of the California State University Northridge hereby recommends and supports the adoption, implementation and enforcement of the proposed Smoke-free policy, with designated smoking areas in parking lots from **September 1, 2011** transitioning to 100% smoke-free beginning **September 1, 2012**.

Suggested SEC revision to the single resolve in the resolution:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Faculty Senate of the California State University Northridge endorses a recommendation that the [University Policy on Smoking](#) be amended to prohibit smoking except within designated parking lots and posted campus areas starting **September 1, 2011** and that consideration be given towards establishing a date when the campus will be designated 100% smoke-free.

¹ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (2010). *Health Effects of Exposure to Secondhand Smoke*. Retrieved from <http://www.epa.gov/smokefree/healtheffects.html>.

² California Air Resources Board. (2009). *Environmental Tobacco Smoke*. Retrieved from <http://www.arb.ca.gov/toxics/ets/ets.htm>.

³ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2006). *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health.

⁴ American Cancer Society. (2009). *Cigarette Smoking*. Retrieved from http://www.cancer.org/docroot/ped/content/ped_10_2x_cigarette_smoking.asp.

⁵ California Department of Public Health. (2006). *18-24 Year Old Smoking Prevalence*. Retrieved from <http://www.cdph.ca.gov/programs/tobacco/Documents/CTCP18-24YrOld06.pdf>.

⁶ The Core Institute at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. (2006). *Core Survey Results*. Retrieved from <http://www.core.siuc.edu/>.

⁷ Wechsler H., Rigotti N.A., Gledhill-Hoyt J., & Lee H. (1998). Increased levels of cigarette use among college students: a cause for national concern. *Journal of American Medical Association*, 280,1673–1678.

⁸ Green, M. P., McCausland, K. L., Xiao, H., Duke, J. C., Vallone, D. M., & Healton, C. G. (2007). A closer look at smoking among young adults: Where tobacco control should focus its attention. *American Journal of Public Health*, 97, 1427-1433.

⁹ Ling, P. M., & Glantz, S. A. (2002). Why and how the tobacco industry sells cigarettes to young adults: Evidence from tobacco industry documents. *American Journal of Public Health*, 92, 908-916.

¹⁰ Tobacco Assistance Legal Center. (2007). *Tobacco Laws Affecting California*. Oakland, CA.

¹¹ Klepeis, N. E., Ott, W. R., Switzer, P. (2007). Real-Time Measurements of Outdoor Tobacco Smoke Particles. *Journal of the Air and Waste Management Association*, 57, 1-13.