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Faculty Senate Resolution 14–02

Support for a Tobacco-Free Campus

Sponsored by Judith Sylvester

Whereas Louisiana State University and A & M College is an enlightened, top-tier research institution;

Whereas Louisiana Act 211 mandates that public post secondary education institutions shall develop smoke-free policies (both indoor and outdoor) by Aug. 1, 2014;

Whereas Act 211 also allows campuses to develop tobacco-free status policies;

Whereas surveys of LSU faculty, staff and administrators indicates widespread support for a campus policy that eliminates cigarettes and secondhand smoke and further that the majority, especially non-smokers, support tobacco-free status;

Whereas the Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Living recommends “tobacco-free” status for Louisiana public colleges and reports that campuses that are “smoke-free” only see an increase in use of smokeless tobacco products among students;

Be it resolved that the LSU policy should specifically eliminate any and all forms of tobacco, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, water pipes (hookah), bidis (small, thin, hand-rolled cigarette imports), kreteks (sometimes referred to as clove cigarettes), smokeless tobacco, snuff, and chewing tobacco, as well as electronic cigarettes and any other product which is used to deliver nicotine by means of smoke or vapor;

And be it further resolved that the LSU administration should be encouraged to form a permanent campus-wide taskforce to oversee the implementation, evaluation and enforcement of the established campus tobacco policy.

Supporting Information

- More than 1,200 U.S. colleges and universities have smoke-free policies and furthermore that more than 800 of these institutions are 100 percent tobacco-free and the other LSU system college campuses have adopted tobacco-free status. (National Center for Tobacco Policy)
- The toll of tobacco in Louisiana includes 6,500 adult deaths annually, and the annual health care costs directly caused by smoking is \$1.47 billion. (Tobacco-Free Kids)
- Health risks associated with tobacco use, including the strongly addictive nature of nicotine, have been well documented for 50 years. (U.S. Surgeon General Reports, 1964-2014)
- E-cigarette experimentation and recent use doubled among U.S. middle and high school students during 2011–2012, resulting in an estimated 1.78 million students having ever used e-cigarettes as of 2012. Moreover, in 2012, an estimated 160,000 students who reported ever using e-cigarettes had never used conventional cigarettes. (CDC)
- The FDA has not approved e-cigarettes as smoking cessation product and is seeking the authority to regulate vapor products while joining with the U.S. Surgeon General and the Centers for Disease Control in calling for the creation of a tobacco-free generation. (FDA, Health and Human Services U.S. Surgeon General reports, CDC)
- The LSU campus contains a daycare center and a lab school that contains children and teens and a number of 17-year-old freshmen who cannot legally buy tobacco products and are the main target for the FDA efforts to create a tobacco-free generation.

Excerpts from a Faculty/Staff/Administrator survey, based on a random sample and conducted between Nov. 18 and Dec. 9, 2013, using Qualtrics online survey software. A total of 510 useable questionnaires were completed.

Subject personally supports the campus becoming “tobacco-free.”

Faculty	74%
Staff	69%
Administrators	74%

Subject avoids certain areas on campus to prevent exposure to secondhand smoke.

Faculty	52%
Staff	48%
Administrators	33%

Subject currently has asthma, allergies to secondhand smoke or other breathing problems.

Faculty	30%
Staff	30%
Administrators	30%

Subject is concerned about health consequences of being exposed to secondhand smoke on campus (agree/strongly agree)

Faculty	70%
Staff	63%
Administrators	74%

LSU should join SEC universities with “tobacco-free” policies:

Faculty	75%
Staff	68%
Administrators	67%

LSU should join other Louisiana campuses that have “tobacco-free” policies*:

Faculty	75%
Staff	71%
Administrators	74%

Smoker/Non-smoker Classifications				
	Regular Smoker	Occasional/Social Smoker	Former Smoker	Never Smoked
Faculty	04%	08%	18%	70%
Staff	10%	09%	19%	62%
Administrators	07%	15%	11%	67%

Based on 510 responses.

Smoker/Non-smoker Classifications				
	Regular Smoker	Occasional/Social Smoker	Former Smoker	Never Smoked
Undergraduate	09%	24%	05%	62%
Graduate	12%	15%	12%	62%

Based on 412 undergraduates and 78 graduate/professional students.