WSU Clean Air Initiative: WSU Smoke-Free Core Campus Proposal

Environmental Issues Committee

January 2013

Proposal to Faculty Senate: *The Environmental Issues Committee recommends to WSU Faculty Senate and to WSU Administration that the university adopt a smoke-free zone on the Ogden campus, based on the map prepared by facilities management. (see attachment)*

**BACKGROUND:**

As of January 2, 2013, at least 1,130 colleges or universities in the U.S. have adopted 100% smoke-free campus policies that eliminate smoking in indoor and outdoor areas across the entire campus, including residences. This number has grown from 530 campuses the same time a year earlier (July 2011) and 420 campuses two years ago (July 2010). (<http://www.no-smoke.org/goingsmokefree.php?id=447>)

Based on extensive discussions with various campus stakeholders (faculty, staff, students) and a survey administered in 2011, the Environmental Issues Committee, with support from the WSU Student Senate, proposes that WSU adopt a smoke-free zone on the Ogden campus, based on the attached map prepared by Facilities Management. This is not a total ban on smoking, but rather a prohibition on smoking in the core campus area.

Below, we have prepared a timeline detailing steps taken in the last two years to explore options for WSU.

**Timeline of No Smoking Action on WSU Campus:**

**March, 2011**: WSU Student Senate and Student Wellness Coordinator hosted open forums on University’s tobacco policies. (More than 400 people attend, mostly students.)

**April, 2011**: WSU Student Senate passed a resolution (14 for and 2 against) encouraging the WSU President’s Council to implement a more restrictive policy by January 2013.

**February through April, 2011**: The WSU Faculty Senate administered an opinion survey about the issue to faculty, students, and staff.

**Fall, 2011**: Former WSUSA Legislative VP Justin Neville and current Legislative VP Brady Harris petitioned Faculty Senate Executive Committee to assign the issue of tobacco use on campus to the Environmental Issues Committee.

**Smoke-Free Timeline, continued**

**Fall, 2012**: The WSU Faculty Senate Environmental Issues Committee (EIC) accepted the charge, generally supporting the objective of more restrictive tobacco policies per the clear health science in support of such policies.

**October, 2012**: In light of faculty, student, and staff comments attained through the survey administered in Fall of 2011, the EIC Committee voted to pursue outdoor smoking areas on campus rather than an outright ban.

**November, 2012**: After consultation with University administrators, the EIC Committee drafted a map of campus that included a “No Smoking Corridor” (see attached) and voted in favor of presenting the plan to the Faculty Senate.

**Implementation:**

1. Facilities management has committed to install no-smoking signage on in the smoke-free zone.
2. EIC will partner with WSU Wellness to increase awareness of smoking cessation programs available to the campus community.
3. EIC and Facilities will post reminders on WSU Bulletins and in the *Signpost*.
4. The Environmental Ambassadors Programs will, during the beginning of fall and spring semesters, provide reminders that smoking is not permitted in the core campus area.
5. WSU Chief of Police, Dane LeBlanc, is willing to enforce the policy as written.