

FACULTY AGENDA ITEM NO 16-5

Date: January 22, 2016

Submitted by: Jennifer Ball, President, Faculty Senate, x1840

SUBJECT: DESIGNATED SMOKING/VAPING AREAS ON CAMPUS

Description: College campuses around the country are addressing the issue of smoking/vaping on campus. The Faculty Senate/General Faculty at Washburn supports a policy of designated smoking/vaping areas on our campus, thereby allowing those who choose to avoid these areas to do so, while allowing smokers/vapers the freedom to smoke/vape on campus.

Rationale: The concerns of both non-smoke and -vapers and smoke/vapers should be addressed in any smoke/vape campus policy. Health concerns regarding secondhand smoke/vapor are valid, but the simplest and most fair way to address this concern is to designate smoking/vaping areas on campus. Such areas should be easy for nonsmoke/vapers to avoid, and easy for smoke/vapers to find. One suggestion was to designate an area near one, less-used entrance to every building on campus as a smoking/vaping area.

This method is simpler than a ban, in that it greatly cuts down on enforcement problems. It will also avoid unintended consequences such as smoke/vapers standing on the sidewalk on the borders of our campus, or being pushed into surrounding neighborhoods. Finally, our goal should not be to judge or punish smoke/vapers, but to allow people whose health is affected by secondhand smoke/vape to avoid it. Designated smoking/vaping areas meets this goal without being punitive to smoke/vapers.

Financial Implications: Minimal (if signage is necessary, and for enforcement).

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2016

Request for Action: Approval by Faculty Senate and then General Faculty

Approved by: Faculty Senate on date 3/21/16

General Faculty on date

Attachments Yes No X