Student Relations Advisory Committee

March 19, 2010

Present: Charles Koopmann (Chair), Leo McAfee, Janine Maddock, Royster Harper, Simone Himbeault-Taylor, Donna Hayward, Chris Armstrong, Karin Teske (Student Support)

Guest: Ken Warner (Dean, School of Public Health)

Meeting called to order at 12:19pm

Campus Non-Smoking Policy

-Smoke free consistent with goal of healthy community

A steering committee has been established to guide efforts for the implementation of the Campus Non-Smoking Policy which will take effect July 1, 2011.

Rules for implementation of the policy may differ by campus (Dearborn, Flint, Ann Arbor).

Brief History:

1987-smoking ban in buildings and vehicles (however residence hall still allowed smoking)

2003- Residence Hall Association eliminated smoking

Current Efforts and Issues:

Precedence: 300 campuses across the country already have non-smoking policy (many are very small campuses and thus it is not a far distance to walk off of campus grounds)

Geographic/spatial: UM North campus- creates different issue- may be a far distance to walk to get off of campus grounds

Student input: survey expressed discontent with the new policy; but open hearings saw poor turnouts to address the issue.

Medical needs: does this policy discriminate against those with psychiatric disabilities who are helped by the drug nicotine?

Important to remember there is a distinction between smoking behavior and nicotine

Compliance: Other universities report 95% compliance of the policy
7 Potential Issues or Exceptions:

1) North campus
   higher percentage of foreign students, particularly Asian males—many of whom smoke; additionally, it is a far walk to go from on campus to off from certain locations.
2) Tailgates
   policy will be self-enforcing; some violations may go unnoticed.
3) Visitors to campus
   may not be aware of the policy
4) Smoking in cars in parking lots (3rd hand smoking)
   is it safer for people to light up while their car is not yet moving, or to restrict people to after they are on the road to light up
5) Repeat offenders
6) Immediate neighbors (merchants)
7) Creating 2nd hand smoke problem on sidewalks

The executive office will decide whether any exceptions are necessary.

Importance:

The policy will encourage an increased quit rate by only a small minority—but still public health significance.
As a policy, may be attractive to prospective students looking at Michigan as a college choice.

Chair Remarks:

Next meeting 16th of April: Rec Sports
February minutes: pending approval for next time.
rationale for amendments needed (SSRR)

Meeting ended at 1:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Karin Teske (SACUA Student Support)