

From: Penny Thompson, Chair, Cascade Health & Safety Advisory Committee  
To: Dr. Algie Gatewood, Ken Goodwin, Scott Huff, Randy McEwen, Dr.  
Linda Reisser  
Date: July 6, 2005

Subject: Smoking on Campus

As all of you are aware, smoking on campus has been an on-going issue college-wide and at Cascade Campus for some time. In fact, the Cascade Health & Safety meeting minutes show that smoking has been a major focus for the last 13 years. Here's a brief recap of what has transpired over the past several years.

1. Designated smoking areas have been recommended and approved.
2. A smoking policy limiting smoking to designated areas only has been recommended and approved.
3. Smoking shelters were requested and are now in place in strategic areas in several campus locations. Shelters have been placed in areas which are visible to several buildings, pose little to no fire hazard, and do not impede nonsmoker pedestrians. (Two shelters are in temporary locations due to construction.)
4. A college-wide No Smoking Policy has been discussed and proposed.
5. Several Health & Safety Quarterly Reports have addressed curtailing smoking to designated areas.
6. Brochures which include the college policy, compliance guidelines, cessation information, and campus maps of designated areas have been created.
7. Committee members have met with representatives from ASPCC, Public Safety, and Student Services face-to-face to discuss the smoking policy and enforcement.
8. Committee members have collaborated with ASPCC representatives to create and post clear signs directing smokers to designated areas.
9. Clear signage and removal of butt receptacles near entryways have been requested. The signs do not reflect the current policy and the receptacles seem to send the message that "this" is the place to smoke.

10. With proper documentation from Public Safety officers, Dr. Linda Reisser has agreed to apply the Code of Student Conduct to those students who do not comply with the smoking policy.
11. At the request of committee members, Dr. Gatewood sent an email to campus staff asking that they review the smoking policy with students and that “Public Safety officers educate people on the campus who are observed violating the Smoking Policy as to its requirements.”
12. At committee meetings, we have repeatedly requested that Public Safety officers enforce the current policy as part of their regular patrolling by informing smokers that smoking is restricted to specific areas and referring smokers to the shelters. Copies of meeting minutes have been sent to Public Safety reflecting the overwhelming opinion that enforcement is lacking. We were recently informed by a Public Safety officer that enforcement is “not a priority”.

Committee members appreciate what the college Administration has done to support and implement our recommendations regarding smoking on campus. However, at our last several meetings, committee members have expressed frustration because of having to repeatedly deal with the same aspects of the issue: enforcement and clear signage. It is our conclusion that without consistent and active enforcement along with clearly written signage, smoking will remain an issue indefinitely. As a result, we are referring the issue, which will no longer remain one of our agenda items, to Administration for resolution.