

Academic Senate

Resolution 16/17-01

Procedure:

1. A motion should be typed or hand-printed.
2. A motion should first be offered to the Executive Board for review and advice on editing and parliamentary implication.
3. If changes are necessary, the motion should be recopied on another form. Amendments may be indicated in the margin or on the reverse of this form.

Proposal for a Smoke-Free USC

WHEREAS, cigarette use and exposure to secondhand smoke are the leading preventable causes of death in the United States, killing more than 480,000 Americans each year, and exceeding the combined death toll from motor vehicle injuries, illegal drug and alcohol use, firearm-related incidents, and HIV.¹ Nearly one in ten college students in America will eventually die prematurely from tobacco use,² and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has found that secondhand tobacco smoke is a risk to public health and has classified it as a Group A carcinogen.³ Exposure to secondhand smoke increases the risk of heart disease and lung cancer by up to 30%.⁴ The Surgeon General of the United States has concluded that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke,¹ and

WHEREAS, college students are vulnerable to pressures to start and increase smoking, and 20% of social smokers become daily smokers over the course of a four-year college period.⁵ However, students entering college as non-smokers have been shown to be 40% less likely to become smokers when they live in a smoke-free environment,⁶ and

WHEREAS, as of April 1, 2016, there were 1,713 smoke-free campuses in the US, of which 1,427 were also tobacco-free, and 1,288 prohibit the use of e-cigarettes or vaping.⁷ This includes all ten University of California campuses and nine of the Pac-12 schools, and

WHEREAS, a peer-reviewed study published in 2015 found that adopting a 100% tobacco-free policy had no impact on student enrollment or applications,⁸ and

WHEREAS, since June 2016, California has raised the minimum age for smoking tobacco to 21, and

WHEREAS, USC's current smoke-free policy is not well known or adhered to. Only certain spaces on our campus are designated as fully smoke-free areas, including the immediate area of the hospitals and certain schools (SCA and Viterbi). The existing policy provides no effective disincentive to smoking outdoors, and the outdoor life we enjoy in Southern California makes containment and avoidance of second-hand smoke unrealistic, and

¹ The Health Consequences of Smoking - 50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General (2014)

² http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/youth_data/tobacco_use/

³ <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/epa-designates-passive-smoking-class-or-known-human-carcinogen>

⁴ <http://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/causes-prevention/risk/tobacco/second-hand-smoke-fact-sheet>

⁵ https://tobaccofree.ucr.edu/instructional_resources/pdf/tobacco_fact_sheet.pdf

⁶ <http://archive.sph.harvard.edu/press-releases/archives/2001-releases/press03222001.html>

⁷ <http://no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf>

⁸ Miller, Kimberly D., et al. "Impact of the Adoption of Tobacco-Free Campus Policies on Student Enrollment at Colleges and Universities, North Carolina, 2001-2010." *Journal of American College Health* 63.4 (2015): 230-6.

41 WHEREAS, smoking imposes additional burdens on the University, including fire damage, extra
42 cleaning and maintenance, and the costs of employee and student absenteeism and medical treatment, and
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44 WHEREAS, there is widespread support for such a smoke-free policy across all groups of USC students
45 and employees; the Undergraduate Student Government, the Graduate Student Government and the Staff
46 Assembly have all passed recent resolutions calling for a smoke-free campus, and the Spring 2016 Daily
47 Trojan Editorial Board called for a smoke-free USC, and
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49 WHEREAS, The University of Southern California is an R1 research university with a medical school
50 that includes an NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, and faculty and students who are leaders
51 in the fight against tobacco, and
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53 WHEREAS, USC has a responsibility to exercise leadership in the promotion of a healthy, smoke and
54 tobacco-free environment for all students, employees, patients and visitors, and
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56 WHEREAS, we recognize the rights of individuals to choose to smoke, that smoking over age 21 is not
57 illegal in California, and that habitual users will incur inconveniences if a smoke-free policy is instigated.
58 However, our over-riding concern is for the rights of all USC students, staff and faculty to avoid second-
59 hand smoke in their workplace, and to have policies in place that provide every possible means to
60 discourage smoking in our students.
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62 Therefore, Be it RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate recommends:
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64 A. That the administration of the University of Southern California adopts a 100% smoke-free and
65 tobacco-free policy to create a healthier environment for students, employees, patients and visitors; to
66 support tobacco users who are trying to quit; and to reduce the number of new tobacco users by
67 promoting the social norm of a tobacco-free environment. A smoke-free and tobacco-free policy means
68 that smoking tobacco or marijuana, the use of smokeless tobacco products, the use of unregulated nicotine
69 products, and the use of electronic smoking devices (which includes e-cigarettes) is strictly prohibited on
70 all University-controlled properties.
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72 B. That the USC administration creates a Smoke-Free Campus Task Force to draft a new smoke-free and
73 tobacco-free policy, to oversee its implementation, and to ensure ongoing compliance with the new
74 policy.
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77 Resolution Number: **16/17-01**

Motion by: Executive Board

78 Date: September 19, 2016

(No second required when moved by committee)

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80 First Read: September 21, 2016

81 Second Read and Vote: October 19, 2016
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83 Action taken: Passed Unanimously