

# The University of Utah Tobacco-Free Campus | Senate Ad Hoc Committee

## Interim Report | January 2018

### 1. REVIEW CHARGE OF SENATE AD HOC COMMITTEE

A Senate Ad Hoc Committee shall be established, with membership and functions determined by the Senate President (after consultation with the Campus Wellness Officer, Dean of Students, and Chief Human Resources Officer), and approved by the Senate Executive Committee. It should include representatives of the existing Campus Tobacco Policy Review Board. Prior to July 1, 2018, the ad hoc committee shall present to the Senate and Board of Trustees an interim report and a final report and recommendations. Among its functions, it shall:

- consider whether additional surveys of members of the University community are necessary;
- gather information regarding tobacco-use regulations at other Utah System of Higher Education institutions;
- study and make specific recommendations regarding possible designation of tobacco-use tolerance zones at University campus locations convenient for students, employees, and visitors;
- and propose any amendments to this Rule or related regulations which the Committee determines should be considered prior to the start of enforcement.

### 2. COMMITTEE ACTION TO DATE

#### Committee Meetings

Committee members have met monthly on 8/18/17, 9/29/17, 10/27/17, 11/30/17, and 1/5/18. Future monthly meetings are planned through May 2018. Meeting agendas, minutes, and audio recordings are available upon request.

#### Town Hall Listening Sessions

Established with the goal to discuss Rule 3-300A and gather information from University community to make informed recommendations on implementation, enforcement, and best practices. A brief PowerPoint presentation and FAQs handout were created, with content pulled from Rule 3-300A. The format includes ~10 minutes devoted to PP and 50 minutes to discussion. Two meetings have been held and several are planned through May 2018. Meeting PP slides, minutes, and audio recordings are available upon request.

- 11/16/17 – Union Building – 3 pm
  - Target Audience: students
  - Attendance: ~20
  - Questions and Comments
    - How will this affect fraternity and sorority houses? Are they technically part of campus?
    - Who do I speak with about marketing and education?
    - Who should the residents in student apartment reach out to for information?
    - How do we help people communicate in a respectful way?
    - Are high schools or other education systems providing input in this effort?
    - Communicate the message without shaming
    - Why the current enforcement plan?
- 12/18/17 – Red Butte Garden – 10 am
  - Target Audience: venues (Red Butte Garden, Athletics, Kingsbury Hall, U Guest House, museums)
  - Attendance: ~15
  - Questions and Comments
    - Staff are here 8-10 hours/day. How are we handling that question?
    - Staff are addicted and working long hours. What are we asking them to do?
    - Will there be any tobacco use areas on campus?

- Will the tobacco use area go away in Red Butte Garden?
- Who is going to enforce this at the University Guest House?
- If we get rid of tobacco areas, they will just smoke anyway.
- How do you think the visitors will react? How do we handle this?
- What is the enforcement? Fines?
- What is the education process with visitors?
- Will we be given a budget?
- What are our minimal obligations around this policy?
- Do we have to post signs?
- How do we keep people from going into the hills and smoking?
- Will this be in our employment contracts?
- What is a vape?
- As a venue, if we have a spot that is for tobacco use, are we going to face repercussions?

### Facility Management Listening Tour

Committee member Dr. Jim Anderson is running listening sessions and interviews with facility management personnel to gather additional information. Several have been held and more are planned through January 2018. Current proposed 10 clarifications and recommendations include:

1. A detailed map of the campus area covered by the policy needs to be clarified and promoted.
2. Signage needs to be changed and cost for signage on buildings and across campus needs to be estimated.
3. Language that specifies that actions taken under this policy cannot be used in employment evaluations or student disciplinary actions.
4. Smoking in private automobiles is not covered by the policy. Clarification to the rule and exclusion needs to be publicized.
5. An alternative to cessation sessions should be available for those not interested or who have no intention of quitting. Currently, fines are removed or reduced by attending a cessation session.
6. Amend the policy to make a violation a secondary offence since the policy promotes peer pressure as an effective way of gaining compliance. Enforcement is a labyrinth of difficulties.
7. Costs of enforcement. Consider flying the tobacco-free flag high and proudly, while being low key with enforcement.
8. Fines are excessive and put an undue burden on those least able to pay but most likely to smoke. The assessment of fines and escalation of amounts are unspecified. Consider shift to education.
9. The University should offer a full panel of support for those who feel that they must stop smoking in order to do their jobs. Currently services are provided to faculty and administration but not to non-benefitted personnel or students.
10. Facilities management wants to inform their own shops and building custodial staff as they, HR, and IT represent fundamentally different operating cultures unlike faculty and administration.

### Enforcement

The committee has discussed this issue more than any other, both in monthly meetings and in town hall listening sessions. We are currently considering a variety of options including what is currently stated in the rule – to education only. It is likely that a new recommendation will be made that includes both a fine structure for egregious violations of the rule only and an education/awareness approach for all other violations.

### Signage

Current signage across the University is inconsistent. Current state law maintains regulations on language and placement. Moving forward, who will pay for the new signage and what is the timeline for new signage?

### Cessation and Resources

The committee has identified current cessation resources available to those faculty, staff, students, and visitors who are interested in quitting. Wellness and Integrative Health staff have completed additional tobacco cessation facilitator training. A comprehensive list of resources is available on [tobaccofree.utah.edu](http://tobaccofree.utah.edu) and representatives from the Utah Department of Health have committed to providing free, long-term resources for the University campus.

### Tobacco-free Tolerance Zones

The committee has debated this charge. Currently, members are mixed on this idea, with some favoring and the majority opposing. If the ultimate goal is to have none, then what is the best option for a phased approach? A tobacco-free campus, by definition, does not include tobacco tolerance zones or designated smoking areas.

### Marketing and Communications

On the first day of fall semester (8/21/17), an announcement was sent via @theU informing the University community of the recently-passed Rule 3-300A, ad hoc committee, and timeline for implementation. Subsequently, media covered the announcement in The Daily Utah Chronicle, Continuum, KSL/The Deseret News, Salt Lake Tribune, U.S. News and World Report, and The Doug Wright Show. Thousands of University social media followers engaged in lively and overwhelmingly positive discussions across Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

University Marketing and Communications contracted with Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety to create posters, social media posts, graphics, promotional products, website ([tobaccofree.utah.edu](http://tobaccofree.utah.edu)), and a comprehensive marketing plan that will continue through summer 2018.

## 3. UTAH SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Below is a summary of other USHE Institutions and their current tobacco-use regulations and policies.

- Brigham Young University: Yes, tobacco free. Policy falls under The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints BYU honor code which does not allow use of tobacco products.
- Dixie State University: Yes, tobacco free. Policy approved 11/2013.
- Salt Lake Community College: No. Students and health/wellness groups are currently pursuing a smoke-free policy and have applied for funding from the American Cancer Society and CVS Tobacco-free Generation Campus Initiative.
- Snow College: No. Not currently pursuing a tobacco-free policy at this time.
- Southern Utah University: No. Students are currently pursuing a tobacco-free policy with Student and Academic Senate with support from over 30 clubs and organizations, students, and faculty. Received \$20k funding from the American Cancer Society and CVS Tobacco-Free Generation Campus Initiative to support their efforts.
- Utah State University: No. Not currently pursuing a tobacco-free policy on main campus; however, USU Extension is going tobacco free.
- Utah Valley University: No. Students are currently pursuing a tobacco-free policy but lack support from administration. A public health class is working on a policy analysis to present this semester.

- Weber State University: Yes and No. Current policy allows smoking only in designated areas. Students are currently pursuing a tobacco-free policy and have applied for funding from the American Cancer Society and CVS Tobacco-Free Generation Campus Initiative.
- Westminster College: No. Not currently pursuing a tobacco-free policy at this time but open to it.

#### 4. INFLUENCE ON UTAH STATE LEGISLATURE

After hearing of the successful work of the University, Rep. Bruce Cutler reached out to Dr. Robin Marcus and Garrett Harding commending our efforts and seeking support for *House Bill 155 Smoke and Tobacco Free Capitol Hill*. On 1/11/18 Dr. Robin Marcus and Garrett Harding attended a meeting with Rep. Cutler, the Utah Department of Health, Capitol Preservation Board, Office of Tourism, and made recommendations to the bill. The University, including University of Utah Health and Huntsman Cancer Institute, plan to publicly support *House Bill 155* during the 2018 Utah Legislative Session.

#### 5. NEXT STEPS AND ACTIONS PLANNED

The committee has future town halls planned for January, February, March, April, and May 2018 targeting Huntsman Cancer Institute, University of Utah Health, Hospitals and Clinics, student housing, off-site and satellite buildings.

The committee will continue to gather feedback via [tobaccofree.utah.edu](http://tobaccofree.utah.edu).

Committee member Dr. Jim Anderson will continue listening tour with facilities management and custodial staff.

Committee will create and disseminate a short survey to University community in February 2018.

Committee will provide education and gather feedback via booths and campus events through June 2018.

