

# The Dornsife College Faculty Council

## Resolution 15/16-003

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 on Smoke-Free USC – Constructed in Collaboration with the Smoke-Free Campus Coalition**

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, which is more than the combined death toll of illegal drug use, alcohol use, motor vehicle injuries, firearm-related incidents, and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General of the United States has concluded that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke, and establishing smoke-free environments is the only proven way to prevent exposure.<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found secondhand tobacco smoke to be a risk to public health and has classified secondhand smoke as a Group A carcinogen, the most dangerous class of carcinogen.

WHEREAS, nearly one in ten college students in America—that is, 3,341 current Trojan students—will die prematurely from tobacco use;

WHEREAS, 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;

WHEREAS, exposure to secondhand smoke increases the risk of heart disease by 25% to 30% and the risk of lung cancer risk by 20% to 30%;

WHEREAS, smoking imposes additional burdens on the University as a whole, including fire damage, extra cleaning and maintenance, and the costs of employee and student absenteeism and medical treatment;

WHEREAS, 20% of social smokers become daily smokers over the course of a four-year college period.

WHEREAS, as of January 1, 2016, there are at least 1,475 100% smoke-free campuses. Of these, 1,128 are 100% tobacco-free, and 802 prohibit the use of e-cigarettes anywhere on campus.

WHEREAS, nine of the PAC 12 schools are already smoke-free or tobacco-free campuses.

WHEREAS, all ten University of California campuses are 100% tobacco-free.

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

WHEREAS, the CDC found that among adult smokers, 70% report that they want to quit smoking completely and that tobacco users find it easier to reduce their consumption or quit entirely when they are in a tobacco-free environment.

WHEREAS, the Spring 2016 Daily Trojan Editorial Board called for a smoke-free USC.

WHEREAS, the Staff Assembly Environment Committee circulated a survey requesting the staff's opinions about smoking at USC from November 18, 2015 to November 30, 2015.

WHEREAS, of the 2,271 USC staff members who answered the survey (1,515 respondents from UPC and 756 respondents from other campuses), 82% of the survey respondents supported or remained neutral to USC becoming 100% smoke-free.

Therefore, Be it RESOLVED, That the Dornsife College Faculty Council recommends:

A. That the administration of University of Southern California implement a 100% smoke-free and tobacco-free policy to create a healthier environment for students, employees, and visitors; to support tobacco users who are trying to quit; and to reduce the number of new tobacco users by promoting the social norm of a tobacco-free environment. A smoke-free and tobacco-free policy means that smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, the use of unregulated nicotine products, and the use of electronic smoking devices (which includes e-cigarettes) is strictly prohibited on all University-controlled properties.

B. That USC administration create a Smoke-Free Campus Task Force that will work with the Smoke-Free Campus Coalition to draft a new smoke-free and tobacco-free policy, implement the new policy effective Fall 2016, provide smoking cessation services to students and employees wishing to quit smoking, and ensure ongoing compliance with the new policy.

C. That as an R1 research university with faculty and students who research and tend to the effects of smoking and tobacco use, USC recognize its responsibility to exercise

leadership in the promotion of a healthy, smoke/tobacco-free environment for all students, employees, and visitors.

Resolution Number: 15/16-005

Motion by: Executive Officers

Date: March 10, 2016

(No second required when moved by committee)

To be presented at the Faculty Council meeting on April 6, 2016

Action taken: Approved 12-0