

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Agenda Item Summary Sheet**

**Committee:** Advancement

**Date of Meeting:** March 16, 2010

**Agenda Item:** Resolution Regarding Tobacco Use on College and University Campuses

Proposed  
Policy Change

Approvals  
Required by  
Policy

Other  
Approvals

Monitoring

Information

**Cite policy requirement, or explain why item is on the Board agenda:**

College and university officials are unclear about the board's position on efforts to restrict smoking and use of tobacco products on campus. The resolution would clarify the board's support for these efforts.

**Scheduled Presenter(s):**

Trustee Rice and committee members

**Outline of Key Points/Policy Issues:**

See attached

**Background Information:**

See attached

**MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

<b>ACTION ITEM</b>
--------------------

<b>Resolution Regarding Tobacco Use on College and University Campuses</b>
--

**BACKGROUND**

In recent years, students from a number of colleges and universities within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system have sought to place more restrictions on smoking and tobacco use on their campuses. Several colleges and universities have taken steps to ban the use of tobacco products outside campus buildings, on campus grounds, and in vehicles owned or leased by the college or university (see Attachment B for a list of college and university policies regarding tobacco). College and university officials have expressed some confusion about the board's position on efforts to restrict smoking and use of tobacco products on campus. The attached resolution (Attachment A) would clarify the board's support for these efforts.

**Recommended committee motion:**

The Advancement Committee recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the resolution regarding tobacco use on college and university campuses as stated in Attachment A.

**Recommended Board of Trustees motion:**

The Board of Trustees approves the resolution regarding tobacco use on college and university campuses as stated in Attachment A.

*Date presented to the Board of Trustees: March 16, 2010*

***PROPOSED RESOLUTION***

**A RESOLUTION of the Board of Trustees of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities regarding tobacco use on college and university campuses.**

**Whereas**, the dangers of tobacco use have been well documented by the United States Surgeon General since 1964; further, that the United States Environmental Protection Agency has designated environmental tobacco smoke a Class A carcinogen, estimating that exposure causes 3,000 annual lung cancer deaths and finding that passive smoking has significant adverse effects on respiratory health; and

**Whereas**, the State of Minnesota long has sought to curb the effects of first and second-hand smoking, including passage of the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 144.411-.417, in 1975; and

**Whereas**, the use smokeless tobacco also poses health risks and the risk of nicotine addiction; and

**Whereas**, students from a number of colleges and universities within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system have sought to place more restrictions on smoking and tobacco use on their campuses; and

**Whereas**, in addition to Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act requirements, at least nine of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities have taken steps to ban the use of tobacco products outside campus buildings, on campus grounds, and in vehicles owned or leased by the college or university;

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved That:**

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees encourages each college and university to consult with its employees and students about additional steps the institution should take to:

1. Educate employees and students about the danger of tobacco use to themselves and others;
2. Provide information to employees and students about smoking cessation resources available; and
3. Further restrict tobacco use.



**Minnesota**  
STATE COLLEGES  
& UNIVERSITIES

## Smoking Policies

Under the Minnesota Clean Air Act, smoking has been prohibited in public places, except in designated smoking areas and for a few other exceptions, since it was enacted in 1975. In recent years, many of the 32 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities have been adopting more restrictions on smoking and tobacco use. Some institutions are tobacco free. This is part of a national trend.

In Minnesota, the impetus for placing more restrictions on smoking has often come from students. For example, students at Vermilion Community College circulated a petition to eliminate smoking from the classroom building entrance, signed students up for a smoking cessation support group, handed out “Quit Kits” they created for smokers and helped students participate in the great American Smoke Out. At Minnesota State University, Mankato, the Student Senate passed a resolution asking the administration to adopt more smoking restrictions, and the university complied.

Before deciding to become smokefree, Minnesota State University Moorhead officials surveyed students and employees. The survey showed most students and employees recognize smoking and secondhand smoke are health issues, that the number one place that students and employees are regularly exposed to secondhand smoke is on the campus, and that most students and employees supported a smoke-free campus. Below is a rundown of smoking policies as supplied by the campuses.

### **Anoka Technical College**

Use of any tobacco product is banned in buildings and college vehicles. Smoking is allowed in one designated area outside.

### **Alexandria Technical College**

Use of all tobacco products is prohibited in all campus buildings and college vehicles. Smoking is also prohibited outdoors, except in designated areas. Revised 2006.

### **Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge, Coon Rapids**

Use of tobacco is banned in buildings. Outside, smoking is permitted only at three designated building entrances on the Cambridge campus and six on the Coon Rapids campus.

### **Bemidji State University**

Smoking is not permitted in residence halls and campus buildings or allowed within 15 feet of building entrances and in university vehicles.

### **Central Lakes College, Brainerd, Staples**

Smoking and tobacco use are banned inside buildings. Smoking is allowed in designated outdoor areas near certain building entrances, in campus parking lots and on-street parking areas.

### **Century College, White Bear Lake**

Smoking is banned indoors and outdoors, except for a few designated outdoor areas. Policy took effect 2002.

### **Dakota County Technical College, Rosemount**

Effective Jan. 1, 2010, smoking and smokeless tobacco use are prohibited in and on all college-owned, -operated or -leased properties and grounds, and all college-owned, -operated or -leased vehicles and equipment by employees, students or visitors.

### **Fond du Lac Tribal & Community College, Cloquet**

No smoking is allowed inside any campus buildings, including dormitories and vehicles. A few designated entrances are smoke-free areas.

### **Hennepin Technical College, Eden Prairie, Brooklyn Park**

Smoking is banned in the building and on the campus, except for two designated areas on each campus.

### **Inver Hills Community College, Inver Grove Heights**

Use of all tobacco products is prohibited in college buildings and in college-owned or -leased vehicles. Smoking is restricted to designated outdoor areas.

### **Lake Superior College, Duluth**

All forms of tobacco use are banned on campus.

### **Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minneapolis**

Smoking is prohibited in all campus buildings and is banned outside, except in a few designated areas.

### **Minneapolis Community & Technical College**

Smoking is prohibited in all campus buildings and is allowed outside in six designated smoking areas. Sanctions for violating this policy may include fines and/or disciplinary actions. Adopted 2004

**Minnesota State College – Southeast Technical, Red Wing, Winona**

The college provides a tobacco-free environment in all buildings and college vehicles. Use of tobacco products is not permitted within 75 feet of buildings except in designated areas. Policy revised 2004.

**Minnesota State Community & Technical College, Fergus Falls, Detroit Lakes, Moorhead, Wadena**

Use of tobacco products on the premises of college facilities is prohibited except in designated outdoor areas. Use of tobacco products in college- or state-owned vehicles is also prohibited.

**Minnesota West Community & Technical College, Canby, Granite Falls, Jackson, Pipestone, Worthington**

Smoking and tobacco use are banned in indoor areas of the college. Some campuses have designated outdoor smoking areas. Worthington is a tobacco-free campus.

**Minnesota State University, Mankato**

Effective July 1, 2006, the campus is prohibited in all facilities, in leased- or owned vehicles and at designated smoke-free entrances. At all other building entrances, smoking is prohibited within 15 feet of the entrances. A citywide smoking ban took effect July 1 in Mankato restaurants and bars.

**Minnesota State University Moorhead**

As of Jan. 1, 2008, smoking, tobacco use and tobacco sales (including the use or sale of smokeless tobacco products) are prohibited on university-owned, -operated or -leased property, and in university-owned, -operated or -leased vehicles.

**Normandale Community College, Bloomington**

Smoking is prohibited in all buildings and college-owned vehicles. Smoking is only allowed in two designated outside areas. Use of chewing tobacco is prohibited in all areas.

**North Hennepin Community College, Brooklyn Park**

In accordance with the Minnesota Clean Air Act, no one is allowed to smoke in any college building or enclosed walkway. Smoking is allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

**Northeast Higher Education District Hibbing Community College**

Use of tobacco is banned in all buildings and campus vehicles, but allowed in designated outside areas.

**Northeast Higher Education District Itasca Community College, Grand Rapids**

As of Jan. 1, 2008, smoking and tobacco use are prohibited on college property and in college vehicles.

**Northeast Higher Education District**

**Mesabi Range Community & Technical College, Eveleth, Virginia**

All facilities and vehicles are tobacco free, except in a few designated smoking areas outside the building. Smoking or chewing tobacco is prohibited at all times. Violators will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion.

**Northeast Higher Education District**

**Rainy River Community College, International Falls**  
Effective Feb. 1, 2008, smoking or use of smokeless tobacco products is prohibited on college property including all grounds, the residence hall and college vehicles. Individuals may use tobacco in their private motor vehicles. Policy exception does not apply to specific activities used in connection with the practice of cultural activities by American Indians in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 2 USC, sections 1996 and 1996a. All exceptions must be approved by the provost in advance.

**Northeast Higher Education District**

**Vermilion Community College, Ely**  
Smoking is prohibited in all buildings and is limited to three entrances to the campus and a few designated areas outside residence halls.

**Northland Community & Technical College, East Grand Forks, Thief River Falls**

Use of tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, is prohibited in college facilities and state vehicles. Use of tobacco products is allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

**Northwest Technical College, Bemidji**

Use of tobacco products on the college campus is prohibited. Tobacco use in college- or state-owned vehicles is also prohibited. Policy took effect August 2004. \

**Pine Technical College, Pine City**

Smoking is prohibited in all buildings and outside, except for one designated outdoor area.

**Ridgewater College, Hutchinson, Willmar**

Effective fall 2008, all buildings and college property are tobacco free. Tobacco use in vehicles and equipment owned or leased by the college is also prohibited. Tobacco use in private vehicles in college parking areas is permitted.

**Riverland Community College, Albert Lea, Austin, Owatonna**

As of Aug. 25, 2008, no tobacco use of any kind will be permitted in buildings or on college grounds.

**Rochester Community & Technical College**

Effective Jan. 1, 2010, smoking, tobacco use, and tobacco sales (including the use or sale of smokeless tobacco products) are prohibited on college-owned, -operated, or -leased property, including all college-owned vehicles.

**Saint Paul College**

Smoking is prohibited in any buildings owned or leased by the college or at any college-sponsored educational program, activity of event regardless of its location. A designated smoking area is located outdoors at the east end of the building.

**South Central College, Faribault, North Mankato**

Use of tobacco products by students, employees and visitors in college buildings, entrances and college-owned vehicles is prohibited. Smoking is allowed at designated entrances only. Smokers must remain at least 10 feet from the door.

**St. Cloud State University**

Smoking is banned inside buildings, but allowed outside in designated smoking areas.

**St. Cloud Technical & Community College**

Use of tobacco products in any college-owned or -leased building or vehicle is prohibited, but is allowed in designated outside areas.

**Southwest Minnesota State University, Marshall**

Smoking in all buildings managed or leased by Southwest Minnesota State University is prohibited. Smoking is permitted in residence halls under the guidelines of the Minnesota Clean Air Act.

**Winona State University**

Effective Jan. 12, 2009, use of tobacco products will be prohibited on the campus.

**Resources**

**Surgeon General's Report on Secondhand Smoke**

[www.hhs.gov/news/press/2006pres/20060627.html](http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2006pres/20060627.html)

**Minnesota Department of Education**

[www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/indoorair/mciaa/school.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/indoorair/mciaa/school.html)

**Minnesota Smoke Free Coalition**

[www.smokefreecoalition.org/](http://www.smokefreecoalition.org/)

**American Cancer Society** has a smoke-free campus initiative

[www.cancer.org/docroot/COM/content/div\\_NE/COM\\_4\\_2x\\_Smoke-Free\\_New\\_England.asp?sitearea=COM](http://www.cancer.org/docroot/COM/content/div_NE/COM_4_2x_Smoke-Free_New_England.asp?sitearea=COM)

**Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act, 144.411 to 144.417**

[ros.leg.mn/bin/getpub.php?type=s&num=144.414&year=2006](http://ros.leg.mn/bin/getpub.php?type=s&num=144.414&year=2006).

**Minnesota Rules Parts 4620.044**

[www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/4620/0400.html](http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/arule/4620/0400.html)

The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, [www.mnscu.edu](http://www.mnscu.edu), comprises 25 community and technical colleges and seven state universities serving the higher education needs of Minnesota. The system serves about 260,000 students per year in credit-based courses and an additional 164,000 students in non-credit courses.

*For more information, contact Melinda Voss, director of public relations, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities at (651) 269-9443 or [melinda.voss@so.mnscu.edu](mailto:melinda.voss@so.mnscu.edu).*



Minnesota  
STATE COLLEGES  
& UNIVERSITIES

Wells Fargo Place  
30 7<sup>th</sup> St. E., Suite 350  
St. Paul, MN 55101-7804

ph 651.296.8012  
fx 651.297.5550  
[www.mnscu.edu](http://www.mnscu.edu)

*The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system is an Equal Opportunity employer and educator*

*Revised 03/10*