

The UAF Faculty Senate tabled the following resolution at Meeting #193 on Oct. 7, 2013:

RESOLUTION:

The UAF Faculty Senate **OPPOSES** adoption of a tobacco-free policy across the University of Alaska System.

RATIONALE:

At the September 23, 2013 meeting of the UA System Governance Council, one of the discussion items was a potential proposal to ban all use of tobacco on all University of Alaska property across the entire state. The proposal apparently is being offered by the Union of Students at the University of Alaska Anchorage (USUAA), who intend to bring the proposal to the Board of Regents.

The adverse effects of tobacco use on the health of users and of health insurance systems are manifold and increasing. And the efforts of USUAA to address these problems are to be commended and encouraged. Nevertheless, a zero-tolerance policy applied across all three universities comprising the UA system, including their many branch campuses, should not be undertaken without a careful evaluation of its impacts on the members of the UA community and the public we serve.

The UAF Faculty Senate encourages the UA System Governance Council to consider ways of reducing the adverse impacts of tobacco use that consider all the dimensions of impacts—including extent and mechanisms of enforcement—to UA stakeholders.
