

The UAF Faculty Senate passed the following at Meeting #194, November 4, 2013:

RESOLUTION:

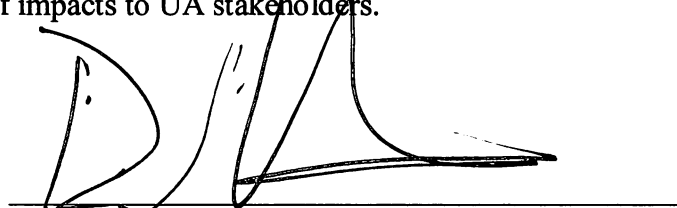
The UAF Faculty Senate affirms its support in principle of efforts to reduce harm from tobacco use, including enforcement of existing policies governing tobacco use. However, the UAF Faculty Senate opposes adoption of a one-size-fits all, zero-tolerance, smoke-free/tobacco-free policy throughout the 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 was the initiative of a student group at the University of Alaska Anchorage, who had proposed the ban to the Board of Regents during public comments at a recent meeting.

The adverse effects of tobacco use on the health of users and of health insurance systems are manifold and increasing. Efforts to address these problems are to be commended and encouraged. Nevertheless, a zero-tolerance policy applied across all 3 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.

We acknowledge that the recent UAF Staff Council survey showed a generally mixed attitude of UAF staff to the proposed tobacco free campus proposal.

We join with the Statewide Administrative Assembly in opposing a zero-tolerance, smoke-free/tobacco-free campuses throughout the UA system, and encouraging the UA System Governance Council to consider ways of reducing the adverse impacts of tobacco use that consider all the dimensions of impacts to UA stakeholders.



President, UAF Faculty Senate