



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

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February 28, 2011

To: Linda Mabbs

Chair, University Senate

From: Ann G. Wylie

Vice President for Administrative Affairs

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann G. Wylie", written over the typed name.

Subject: Response to Senate Document #: 08-09-15

Administrative Affairs has examined the issues contained in Senate Document #: 08-09-15 and relayed to me on April 9, 2010. The Senate Campus Affairs Committee suggested five steps for consideration. I discussed these issues with the directors in Administrative Affairs and we offer the following comments.

1) Increase educational programs about the dangers of smoking and smoking cessation assistance.

According to Dr. Sacred Bodison, Director, University Health Center, the Smoking Cessation Program at the University Of Maryland is sponsored and funded through the University Health Center and is part of Health Promotion Services. In the past three full academic years the Health Center has served between 42 and 75 clients per year who attended between 157 - 271 individual client meetings with the smoking cessation staff. There has been adequate space in this program for all requests the Health Center has received.

Outreach activities for the Smoking Cessation Program include participation in the Terp Wellness Expos, Faculty and Staff Health Fair, Cambridge Community Health Fair, Kappa Phi Gamma Health Fair, First Look Fair and The Great American Smoke-Out in partnership with SGA and College Against Cancer.

The Senate Executive Committee may wish to discuss these and other possible efforts with Dr. Bodison and her staff.

2) Strengthen publicity efforts and enforcement of the current smoking policy.

The current smoking policy needs to be communicated to students and to faculty and staff in different ways. Perhaps, Student Affairs will consider the issue of making information about the smoking policy more widely known by students by working with the Resident Hall Association, the Student Government Association and other students on campus. Faculty and staff are now made

aware of the policy by direct notification through University Human Resources when they are hired. UHR has agreed to send out an annual reminder to all employees going forward.

Enforcement of this policy is problematic. We cannot ask our Public Safety officers to write tickets nor provide any other central means of enforcement due to workload issues. The primary mission of Public Safety is the prevention of crime and we are challenged to do so effectively with our current personnel. However, we do believe that those employees who repeatedly ignore the policy are in fact not meeting the requirements of the workplace. As such, it is incumbent on supervisors to take action through the PRD process. The Department of University Human Resources has agreed to incorporate information in supervisor training activities on the smoking policy and the supervisor's responsibilities in the enforcement through the PRD process.

3) Increase cigarette receptacles in areas where smoking is permitted.

The Department of Building and Landscape Services is reviewing the current deployment of receptacles and may place additional ones where needed.

4) Target areas where violations are high through the use of litter fines and additional cigarette receptacles.

As described above, we do not have the personnel to enforce the smoking policy. We are currently evaluating the placement of receptacles.

5) Increase the number of "No Smoking" signs around buildings.

The Department of Building and Landscape Services will evaluate the current situation and take proper action to ensure entrances are clearly marked as appropriate.

During the discussion among the directors in Administrative Affairs, an additional suggestion for an initiative came forward which we would like the University Senate to consider. We propose that the campus "No Smoking" area be extended from 15 feet to 25 feet away from every building. This satisfies LEED Certification requirements and the Green Building Policy and should essentially make each building entrance "Smoke Free". This action requires a revision in the Smoking Policy by the Senate.