

Fresh Air Campus Challenge (FACC) Committee
Report for Staff Council Meeting #259

Members: Brad Krick, Sue Mitchell

The Fresh Air Campus Challenge group met every Thursday in February. This report only covers the February 19 meeting.

Kris Racina reported that President Gamble had verbally confirmed to Chancellor Rogers that UAF could begin a no-tobacco policy on Dec 31, 2015 (instead of Dec 1). She also reported that the Chancellor's Cabinet green lit to the FACC's recommendations and wants the group to focus on our designated smoking area recommendation, signs, and communication.

Designated Smoking Areas

The FACC wants to include designated smoking areas as an intermediate step on the way to a totally tobacco-free policy. Under this proposal, tobacco use would only be allowed in certain areas between a date TBD and Dec 31. The group is still working on the recommendation, but has tentatively identified six possible areas: West Ridge, lower dorms/Patty Center, Campus core, facilities services, upper dorms, and family housing.

There's some discussion on the pros and cons of this approach. A rep for the American Lung Association suggested that DSAs would complicate the process and require us to teach a second set of rules before changing. The committee recognizes that concern, but generally thinks that DSAs will be useful to raise awareness and help everyone get ready for the new year.

Signs

The group will work with Facilities Services to create signs marking the school as a tobacco-free zone in addition to creating signage for designated smoking areas. Our idea right now is to have the campus wide signs include some kind of sticker announcing the start date that we can remove once the policy is in force.

Communication

The group will work with Marketing & Communication to get the word out about the coming change, the timeline, and resources available. They're hoping to include suggested scripts for bystanders to use to politely inform tobacco users of the change in policy.

If you have questions, comments, suggestions, please contact Sue or Brad. The next meetings have not been scheduled, but I believe the meetings are open and anyone is free to attend.