

**COMMISSION ON UNIVERSITY SUPPORT
MEETING MINUTES
December 15, 2016
130 Burruss Hall**

MEMBERS

Members Present: Richard Ashley (Chair), Mary Christian, Debbie Greer (for Dwight Shelton) Richard Hach (for Scott Midkiff), Robin Jones, Bradley Klein, Edward Lener, Daniel Newcomb, Julie Shumaker (for Charles Phlegar), Ryan Speer, Sherwood Wilson

Members Absent: Hunter Bowers (with notice), Felicia Etkorn, Kathy Hosig (with notice), Chris Kiwus (with notice), Christina Lapel, Heather Parrish (with notice), Ken Smith, Don Taylor

Guests: Steve Mouras, Kirk Wehner

Recorder: Vickie Chiocca

1. Approval of Agenda

The Chair, Richard Ashley, called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of November 17, 2016 Minutes

The minutes from the November 17, 2016 Commission meeting were approved.

3. Old Business

- a. Discussion of vaping/e-cigarettes for Consideration of SGA Resolution on "Addition of Electronic Cigarettes to Policy 1010":
 - o The Chair shared input received from the Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs (CAPFA) summarizing their position regarding university policy on vaping. The consensus was that vaping should be treated the same as smoking in terms of the limitations/restrictions currently in place on campus, and that vaping could be incorporated into the existing Policy 1010.
 - o The Chair shared the results of a survey that was previously shared with the membership and subsequently their constituent groups. There were close to 800 respondents, with roughly 90% in favor of including vaping in the existing policy.
 - o A motion was made by Daniel Newcomb, and seconded by Ed Lener, to prepare a resolution that adds vaping to Policy 1010 for review at the January meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The Chair shared potential language to include in the resolution, and will provide a draft to the full Commission for consideration at the January meeting.

4. Reports from Committee Chairs/Representatives

Steve Mouras reported on the following topics covered at recent meetings of the Campus Development Committee:

- Capital Project updates on the Upper Quad residence halls, the 460 Interchange, Derring Steps, and the Renew/Renovate Academic Buildings projects; and
- Campus Master Plan.

A member suggested that better signage be considered at the new Southgate/Duck Pond roundabout. Steve Mouras stated that although the project is not fully complete he will share the suggestion with VDOT representatives to have more obvious (bigger/better) signage at the location.

Steve Mouras reported on the following topics covered at recent meetings of the Energy and Sustainability Committee:

- The Green RFP Program;
- Sustainability Week wrap-up; and
- Potential new charter for the Committee – will vote in January.

Ryan Speer reported on the following topics that were discussed at recent Transportation and Parking Committee meetings:

- Proposal for a premium parking permit program that was later withdrawn;
 - The proposal garnered negative feedback due to equity issues.

Committee members discussed issues related to permitting and future parking plans, including a comprehensive, tiered parking plan. Although there are ample parking spaces, convenient parking is an issue and will continue to change as the Multi-Modal Transit Facility is completed and transit routing patterns change.

Committee members discussed the role of the Commission in regards to parking and other policy and administrative issues. Generally, the Commission charge is to provide advice and feedback to administration.

5. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is scheduled January 19, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in 130 Burruss Hall.

Adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Chiocca

**COMMISSION ON UNIVERSITY SUPPORT
MEETING MINUTES
November 17, 2016
130 Burruss Hall**

MEMBERS

Members Present: Richard Ashley (Chair), Hunter Bowers, William Dougherty, Felicia Etzkorn, Angela Hayes (for Charles Phlegar), Kathy Hosig, Robin Jones, Bradley Klein, Scott Midkiff, Heather Parrish, Ryan Speer, Sherwood Wilson

Members Absent: Mary Christian (with notice), Chris Kiwus (with notice), Christina Lapel, Edward Lener (with notice), Daniel Newcomb (with notice), Savita Sharma (for Dwight Shelton), Ken Smith, Don Taylor

Guests: Steve Mouras

Recorder: Vickie Chiocca

1. Approval of Agenda

The Chair, Richard Ashley, called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. The agenda was approved.

2. Approval of September 15, 2016 Minutes

The minutes from the September 15, 2016 Commission meeting were approved.

3. Old Business

The Chair asked for nominations/volunteers to serve as Vice-Chair on the 2016-17 Commission. There being none, the Chair noted that meetings will need to be cancelled if there is no one to serve when he is unavailable.

4. New Business

William Dougherty presented "Updates from Network Infrastructure & Services." (Attachment A) The presentation included the following main topics of discussion:

- Recent interruptions in network services generally have been due to much needed router upgrades at switching locations, several of which will continue over the winter break.
 - While updates are available on the IT status page and through 4-help, suggestions were made to enhance notification methods, (e.g. VT News), particularly during longer interruptions.
- Seamless internet service, outdoor wireless, and mapping:
 - William Dougherty will provide a map of locations where outdoor wireless is currently available on campus. Presently, there are only six outdoor wireless locations.
 - There have been problems reported with wireless disconnects and other electronic equipment in the new Classroom Building, resulting in dropped service during quizzes and class presentations.
 - IT will continue to investigate and coordinate with the Provost Office to resolve.

- Fire Alarm annunciator features are being expanded in some buildings to enhance VT Alert capabilities:
 - A concern was raised regarding the use of annunciators rather than message boards in classrooms, and that the message boards functioned as clocks in classrooms. The Provost's office will be made aware of this discussion.
- 2-Factor Authentication – Duo:
 - Hunter Bowers suggested that CNS list where students can get tokens or USBs.
 - A new version of Avaya Communicator “Soft” client is available and is included in the Extend Call mobility package (<http://www.nis.vt.edu/uc/support/mobility>).

5. Old Business

- a. Discussion of vaping/e-cigarettes per SGA Resolution on “Addition of Electronic Cigarettes to Policy 1010”:
 - While feedback/input from various constituent groups has been mixed on whether or not to add vaping to University Policy 1010, there does appear to be more interest and discussion among the various constituencies in support of adding e-cigarettes to the policy.
 - The Chair asked William Dougherty to share a survey that was distributed within the Division of IT (Attachment B) to the Commission members, so that they may share with their various constituents to investigate further and determine whether or not to move forward with a resolution.

Due to lack of time, remaining agenda items were tabled to later meeting.

6. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date is scheduled December 15, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in 130 Burruss Hall.

Adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Chiocca

Network Infrastructure & Services

— Report to the Commission on —
University Support:
November 17, 2016

William C. Dougherty
Executive Director

Agenda

- Review of NI&S mission, role and responsibilities
- Projects in progress
- Troublesome issues
- Updates
 - 16 SLIDES *TOTAL* (including this one!)
- Q&A

NI&S: Mission

Currently updating Mission statement through staff workshops.

Most commonly cited terms→

I.T. infrastructure and services

infrastructure services

I.T. infrastructure solutions



NI&S: Role and Responsibilities

- Administration of data and voice network
 - Wired and wireless (wifi)*
 - “Voice over Internet Protocol” (VoIP) services [equipment and applications]
- Administration of computing and storage infrastructure for most Division of IT services
 - Data Centers located in Andrews Information Systems Bldg., Cassell, and beginning to share Disaster Recovery site in Roanoke at VT CRI
 - Enterprise (business critical) and Research (including High Performance) computing support
 - Google Suite for Education (Gmail, Google Calendar, Classroom, Drive, Sites, etc.)
- IT support for Public Safety programs and initiatives
 - E911 services; video surveillance camera systems; VT Alerts

Projects: Building Aggregation Router Upgrade

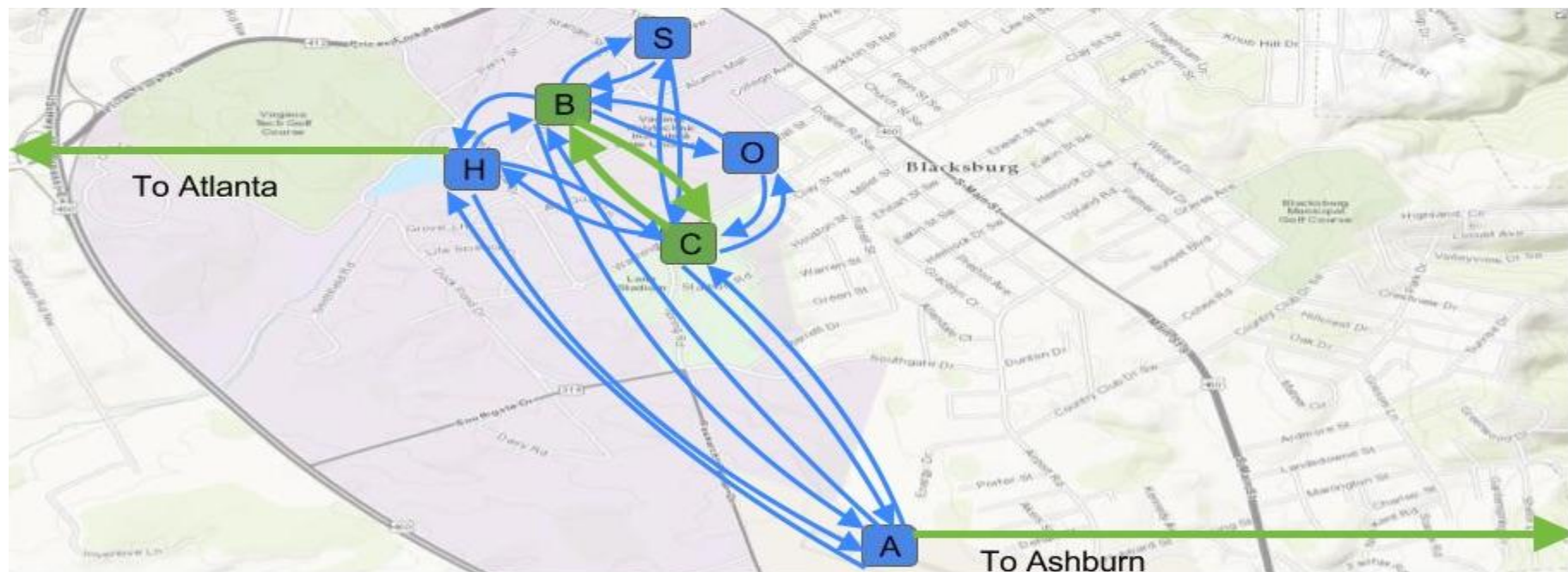
Basics:

- Provides network routing to all campus buildings
- Replaces router in service since 2005

Benefits:

- Bigger, Better, Faster
 - 9.6Tbps of capacity vs 720Gbps (1200% increase)


Projects: Building Aggregation Router Upgrade



Projects: Building Aggregation Router Upgrade

Migration Schedule-impacts six “Switching center” locations

- Owens area completed
- Shanks area completed
- Cassell area @ 95%
- Burruss area } During Winter
- Hillcrest area } Break period
- Andrews Information Systems Bldg (@ CRC) area January

A stack of Blu-ray discs is placed on top of a white console with a perforated front panel. The top disc is 'Batman Returns' in 4K Ultra HD. Below it are 'The Matrix Resurrections' and 'The Matrix Reloaded'. The console is on a wooden surface, and a white game controller is partially visible in the bottom right corner.

Projects: Wireless Device Registration Pilot

Allows for connection of commodity devices*

- Limited to residential halls during pilot
- Not intended for laptops/smart phones - these stay on eduroam
- 1500 devices currently registered
- Users register and manage their own devices

*Game consoles, Blu-ray players, etc.

Projects: Wireless Device Registration Pilot

When will it be available campus wide?

- It's not "good enough" at this time
- Will require significant software development
- "Tentative" for Fall 2017 - but to do before this date is firm
- Will help with scanners, printers, biz-hubs, etc. that departments wish to connect via wifi network



Projects: WiFi Enhancements

Now over 7000 Access Points on-campus

- 80% support the latest wifi protocol (802.11ac)
- Unified Communications project funding will upgrade buildings (now through March 2017)
 - *Norris, Derring, Litton Reaves, War Memorial Gym*
 - *Will also be distributing wireless controllers across campus; this keeps traffic “local”*

Projects: VT Alerts

Annunciator “channel” implemented and tested

- Uses existing fire alarm systems’ speakers
- Supported in 7 buildings
 - Ambler Johnston, New Classroom, Derring, Litton
Reaves, Shanks, Sterrett, Surge
- Complements classroom sign channel (and other channels)

Issues: Wireless Disconnects



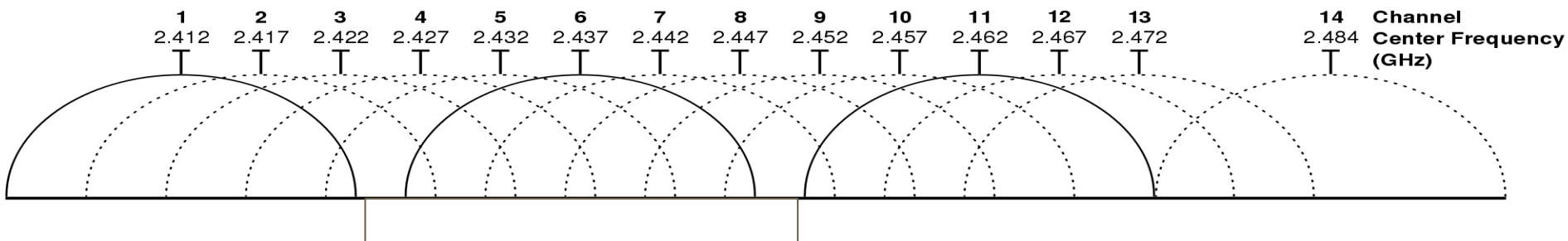
Cause: User “churn” during classroom change periods

- Many users across campus logging on in a small window of time
- All “competing” for the same resources
- Added additional servers; reviewing other changes to improve
- Situation has calmed over last 6-8 weeks; not resolved
- Continuing active work with vendor

Issues: Wireless Disconnects

Symptom: Where did my connection go?

- DFS - Dynamic Frequency Selection
- Some channels in 5GHz share spectrum with radar systems
- If radar is detected, APs drop connections & change channels
- Workaround is to avoid those channels, but this is not ideal
- Again, actively working with vendor



Updates: Remote Access Service/VPN

Coming soon

- IPv6 support; more addresses so expansion will not be limited
- 2 Factor Authentication - DUO

Updates: Unified Communications

Final cable plant upgrades scheduled:

- Derring
- War Memorial
- Litton Reaves
- Norris

Data Center Network upgrade

- Merged with cloud infrastructure initiative
- Pilot (Proof of concept) projects are in progress

Updates: Unified Communications

New version of Avaya Communicator “Soft” client

- Available at no additional cost to voice subscribers
- Supports Windows, Mac OS, iOS, Android

Collaborating with CALS to expand UC services to additional remote offices

- Kentland Farms & Blackstone AREC

Questions?

William Dougherty

1-9239

william@vt.edu

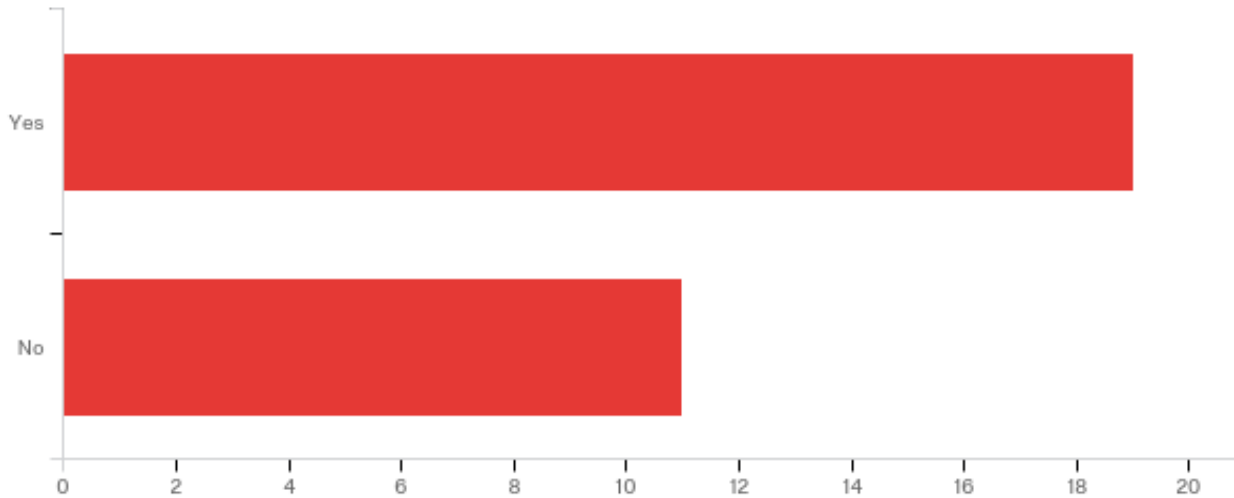
www.nis.vt.edu

Default Report

Vaping and e-cigarettes at Virginia Tech

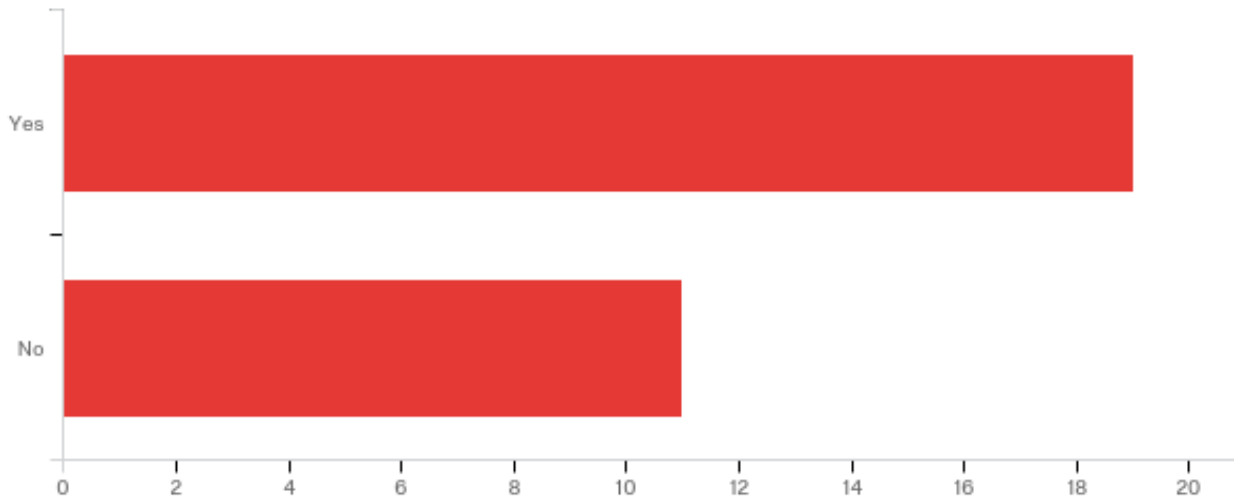
November 11th 2016, 1:43 pm EST

Q1 - Virginia Tech has no official policy on e-cigarettes or vaping in or near university buildings. The Commission on University Support is currently considering several different policy positions regarding this issue, and is interested in opinions from the university community. In your opinion, should vaping be allowed inside university buildings?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes - vaping does not create a problem, and should be allowed	23.33%	7
2	Yes - provided that only unscented vaping liquids are used	10.00%	3
3	No	56.67%	17
4	No opinion	10.00%	3
	Total	100%	30

Q2 - Virginia Tech's policy on smoking states that smoking is prohibited inside buildings and university-owned vehicles, and that smokers should be a minimum of 25 feet from building entrances if they wish to smoke outside. Should vaping be treated the same way as other tobacco products?



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Yes	63.33%	19
2	No	36.67%	11
	Total	100%	30

Yes

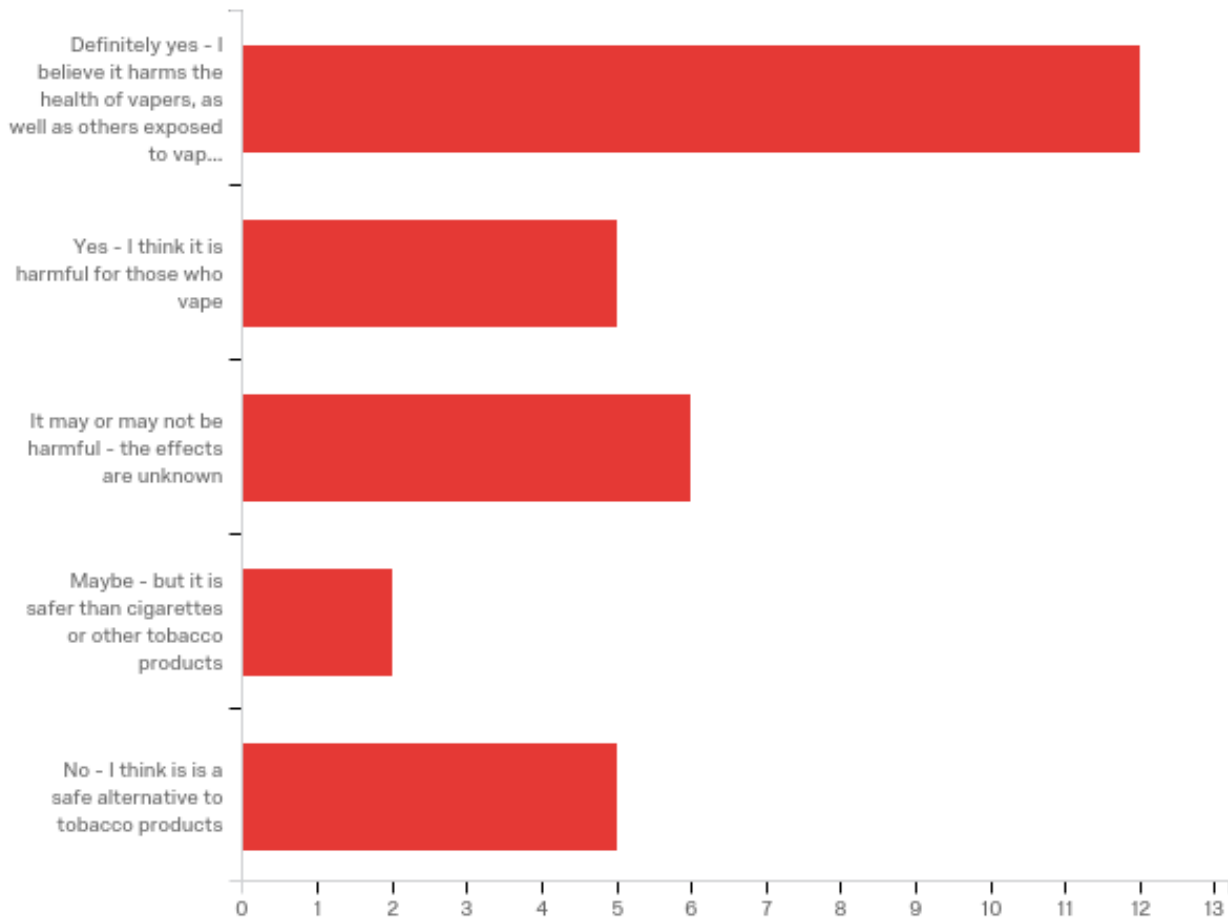
Yes

probably yes, after reading the ALA link you provided (see my additional thoughts in this survey)

No

No

Q3 - Do you believe that vaping is harmful to health? If you'd like to read what the American Lung Association says about it, copy and paste this link into a new browser window - <http://bit.ly/1NpLV78>



#	Answer	%	Count
1	Definitely yes - I believe it harms the health of vapers, as well as others exposed to vapors in the nearby area	40.00%	12
2	Yes - I think it is harmful for those who vape	16.67%	5
3	It may or may not be harmful - the effects are unknown	20.00%	6
4	Maybe - but it is safer than cigarettes or other tobacco products	6.67%	2
5	No - I think it is a safe alternative to tobacco products	16.67%	5
	Total	100%	30

Q4 - Please share any additional thoughts or opinions you have on this topic.

Please share any additional thoughts or opinions you have on this topic.

Please at least limit the use of e-cigarettes to outside of immediate work areas. A coworker vapes in the cubicle next to mine and it made me extremely uncomfortable while I was pregnant. I asked my HR liaison about it at the time, and was told it was allowed as long as the vaping liquid was unscented. My organization's official stance is: "Electronic cigarettes are relatively new and university policy is still unformulated. As long as NI&S policy does not conflict with university policy, unscented e-cigs will be permitted in work areas. I believe we can both support our fellow employees who are trying to reduce cigarette use and still provide a healthy work environment." Notably, this is in direct violation of the CRC smoking policy (we are located in RB14):

<http://www.vtcrc.com/about/policies/smoking/> From the ALA link provided on this survey: "Nicotine is not safe. The U.S. Surgeon General has found exposure to nicotine during pregnancy harms the developing fetus, and causes lasting consequences for the developing brain and lung function in newborns. Nicotine exposure also affects maternal and fetal health during pregnancy, and can result in low birth weights, preterm delivery and stillbirth." And... "While e-cigarettes do not contain smoke, they do expose others to secondhand emissions. Little is known about these emissions or the potential harm they can cause. Two studies have found formaldehyde, benzene and tobacco-specific nitrosamines (all carcinogens) coming from those secondhand emissions. Other studies have shown that chemicals in the vapor contain formaldehyde, acetaldehyde and other potential toxins. There is no evidence that shows e-cigarettes emissions (secondhand aerosol) are safe for non-users to inhale." Risking the potential safety and health of my then-unborn child for the convenience of people not having to leave the comfort of their desks for their nicotine fix is unacceptable, and it makes me sick (perhaps literally so) that my organization supports this.

I used vaping to successfully quit smoking. I vaped and systematically decreased my nicotine intake until I stopped altogether. During the time I vaped I did vape at my desk. Breaking the habit of going outside to smoke helped me as well. I also didn't have to stand outside in the cold which was a plus.

This is a new fad and its overall affects are yet to be determined. Better to err on the conservative side for the sake of all.

It would be a shame to see indoor banning of vaping. There would be little chance that it would ever be reconsidered, and there is certainly no evidence to suggest that it is in any way harmful.

Smokers and Vapers do not currently do not stay 25 feet away from entrances now.

I'd rather not be exposed to it (in buildings or within 25 feet) until it's proven otherwise that it's not harmful. NOTE: I'm not sure how prevalent this issue is on campus. It's been several years since I've seen someone smoking an e-cigarette and the only people I've seen doing the vapor thing were attendees at a conference.

Thanks for including the link to American Lung Association. You should put the American Lung Association link at the top of the survey! I went back and changed answers based on reading it at bottom. I am a non-smoker and a non-vaper, but personally, I like to smell the flavors of those vaping around me and find it much more tolerable than cigarette smoke. However, I do want to avoid the second-hand vapors if it is a health risk to me or others! I talked with a close vaping friend and he said vaping is less harmful than cigarettes for sure. Someone else said 3 times less carcinogens. They also said that some of the information at the ALA page is misleading. I liked what the ALA page said that no studies were done to prove that it isn't harmful. Wish they would do some of those, but that's probably more difficult to prove? Also, when considering vaping for public spaces, some other considerations with vapors and smoke can be how they are exhaled. They could be done so rudely, whether on purpose or by accident. Some vapers I know are very responsible, and others are not. Same with paraphernalia - the oils can be messy, batteries present a slight risk, etc.

Vaping is a healthy alternative to smoking. Everything should be done to encourage people to quit smoking - not to deter it. It is not smoke - it is water vapor.

The university should quickly address the issue of e-cigarettes on campus by amending the policy concerning tobacco products on campus.

I am more than happy to consider my co-workers vaping in the comfort of their offices (as some already do), but only as long as secondhand exposure can be scientifically shown not to pose a health risk to others. I feel like it's still a bit early in the game to make that assumption.

I suggest we go with the science and accepted facts to date, " There is no evidence that shows e-cigarettes emissions (secondhand aerosol) are safe for non-users to inhale." Until there is evidence, let's act prudently and treat vaping as we do cigarettes and prevent their use indoors and within 25 feet of building entrances.

Even if vapes are less harmful than cigarettes, there is still an avoidable health risk and it is commonly accepted as a manner of courtesy for these activities to be conducted outdoors.

I had a co-worked who vaped in his office and it was a problem. It produced an odor and triggered asthma. It's also very unprofessional!

I like the fact that lungs are given a break from tobacco toxins, when I see vaping users I see a healthy alternative.

I would lean towards letting people do it indoors, as long as they are not being obnoxious (e.g. vaping during classes or in public spaces, using scented liquids, etc.) I think it is safer than cigarettes or oral tobacco products, but still kinda gross...it bothers me less than smoking. I still think it can be harmful to health, particularly given that there is little or no regulation of the formulations sold for vaping.