

**COMMISSION ON UNIVERSITY SUPPORT  
MEETING MINUTES  
October 16, 2014  
325 Burruss Hall**

**MEMBERS**

Members Present: Richard Ashley, Cynthia Bonner, Felicia Etzkorn, Betsy Flanagan, Debbie Greer (for Dwight Shelton), Richard Hach (for Scott Midkiff), Joseph Jajonie, Ed Lener, Maxine Lyons, Henry Murray, John Seiler, Savita Sharma, Ryan Speer, Sherwood Wilson

Members Absent: Lay Nam Chang (with notice), Kathy Hosig, Chris Kiwus, Christina Lapel, Tom Tillar

Guests: Jason Soileau, Yohna Chambers, Linda Woodard

**Recorder:** Vickie Chiocca

1. **Approval of agenda** Ms. Lyons called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Lyons asked for changes to the agenda received. Dr. Flanagan moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.
2. **Announcement of approval of March 20, 2014 minutes**  
These minutes were approved electronically in advance of the meeting by the 2013-14 Commission membership.
3. **Review of Committee Charge, Membership, and Meeting Dates/Times**  
Ms. Lyons reviewed the charge of the committee.
4. **New Business**
  - a. **Election of Vice Chair for 2015**  
Upon receiving no other nominations, Ms. Lyons nominated Mr. Lener for vice-chair. Dr. Wilson seconded and motion was approved unanimously.
  - b. **Discussion of Potential Topics and Agenda Items**  
Ms. Lyons stated that Human Resources (HR) has requested the Commission consider whether e-cigarettes should be addressed in University Policy 1010, *Smoking Policy*. Ms. Yohna Chambers, Assistant Vice President for HR, explained that numerous questions have been submitted to HR about the use of e-cigarettes on campus, including during large events/activities. E-cigarettes are not specifically covered by the current version of the Smoking Policy dated January 2011. Policy 1010 restricts “smoking” within 25 ft. of entry/exit ways and “smoking” is defined within the policy as “the lighting or burning of pipe, cigar, or cigarette, or other tobacco product.”

Legal Counsel was consulted and provided an opinion letter from the Commonwealth of Virginia, Office of Attorney General which does not include e-cigarettes within the definition of smoking. E-cigarettes contain a solution of nicotine and water that emit water vapor. Ms. Chambers stated that HR is receiving 3 or 4 complaints or concerns per month about the potential effects of these second hand vapors. There have also been complaints about use of e-cigarettes in classrooms. Ms. Chambers provided an overview of whether or not e-cigarettes were prohibited at Virginia Tech's SCHEV peer institutions (Attachment A). Fourteen of these colleges/universities have specifically prohibited the use of e-cigarettes.

Discussion followed among the members; key points included:

- The potential health and social impacts of e-cigarette use on campus (i.e. perceived benefits over traditional cigarettes, excessive use potentially resulting in a haze, etc.).
- The possible increase in traditional cigarette smoking if e-cigarettes were banned.
- Other universities in Virginia are dealing with the same issue and, to date, none have banned e-cigarettes.

A suggestion was made to form an ad hoc committee that could research the use of e-cigarettes on campus, including a survey of peers, and data regarding the number of complaints received at Virginia Tech. The subcommittee can bring findings and suggestions back to the full Commission for consideration. The subcommittee should also consider defining where use of e-cigarettes may be appropriate or possible, in contrast to an all-out ban. Ms. Bonner, Ms. Chambers, Dr. Ashley, and Mr. Jajonie agreed to serve on the subcommittee. Ms. Chambers agreed to chair the subcommittee.

Ms. Lyons asked if there were other topics members would like to propose for consideration by the Commission. Ms. Etzkorn said faculty members have raised concerns about students dropping off friends in parking lots and in the middle of streets, such as along West Campus Drive. Possible solutions include: 1) ban the practice, 2) consider ways to discourage the specific behavior and/or 3) discourage driving, while encouraging alternative transportation. Bike lane improvements were raised as another area for consideration. Alternative transportation is both a sustainability and transportation consideration so these issues pertain to all three reporting committees. Committee representatives were reminded to report back to their respective committees.

Jason Soileau agreed to give a presentation on the Campus Master Plan at the next Commission meeting.

## **5. Reports from Committee Chairs/Representatives**

### **Campus Development Committee**

The Campus Development Committee met on March 27 and September 18, 2014. Topics included updates on planning issues, Drillfield Drive, the Western Perimeter Road (which will have bike lanes), update on wayfinding projects, academic buildings and overviews of projects presented to the Board of Visitors. The Committee also toured Goodwin Hall and was updated on the forest management plan, the bike parking master plan ([http://www.facilities.vt.edu/documents/oup/BicycleParkingPlanReport\\_9-2014.pdf](http://www.facilities.vt.edu/documents/oup/BicycleParkingPlanReport_9-2014.pdf)), the Multi-Modal Transit Facility and the Campus Master Plan scope development.

### **Energy & Sustainability Committee**

The Energy and Sustainability Committee met March 24, April 28 and September 29, 2014. Main topics covered included updates on the Green RFP, RecycleMania, the Sustainability Plan, end of year events, and the bike parking master plan.

### **Transportation & Parking Committee**

The Transportation and Parking Committee met on September 23, 2014. Topics of discussion included changes in structure of the Parking Appeals Committee, survey to gauge interest in satellite parking for faculty, and bikes on sidewalks. Chief Foust will review bicycle accident data and report on trends. Students expressed a desire to provide more input on Drillfield improvement plans.

## **6. Acceptance of Committee Minutes**

The following minutes were accepted unanimously:

### **Campus Development Committee**

March 27, 2014 and September 18, 2014

### **Energy & Sustainability Committee Minutes**

March 24, 2014 and April 28, 2014

### **Transportation & Parking Committee**

March 17, 2014 and April 21, 2014

## **7. Next meeting date and location**

November 20, 2014 – 325 Burruss Hall

**Adjourned** at 2:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Chiocca

SCHEV Peer Institutions	Smoking on campus		Electronic Cigarettes/Vaping		Notes/Comments
	Designated Areas	Smoke-Free	Not Specifically Addressed	Prohibited	
					<a href="http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf">http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf</a>
<a href="#">University of California, Berkeley</a>		X		X	tobacco free campus; the President's letter and UC policy prohibit the use of tobacco, smokeless tobacco (e.g. moist snuff, chewing tobacco, snus), and unregulated nicotine products (e.g. "e-cigarettes") on campus property
<a href="#">University of California, Davis</a>		X		X	the University of California will be smoke and tobacco free effective January 1, 2014. Once the policy takes effect, smoking, the use of smokeless tobacco products, and the use of unregulated nicotine products (e-cigarettes) will be strictly prohibited on any UC Davis owned or leased property, indoors and outdoors, including parking lots and residential space
<a href="#">University of Colorado at Boulder</a>	X			X	No Smoking Policy as of August 19, 2013
<a href="#">Cornell University</a>	X		X		Cornell prohibits the smoking or carrying of lighted cigars, cigarettes or pipes in all indoor facilities, enclosed bus stops and university owned or controlled vehicles. <i>Exceptions</i> : smoking restrictions do not apply in individual dwelling rooms and residence hall apartments where smoking is permitted per existing guidelines, policies, requirements and contracts of Campus Life OR Greek Life facilities owned by Cornell University

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					<a href="http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf">http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf</a>
<a href="#">University of Florida</a>		X		X	Smoking and tobacco use are prohibited in all facilities and areas of the University of Florida campus with no exception; the 50 feet surrounding such facilities are also designated as no smoking areas
<a href="#">University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</a>		X		X	As of January 1, 2014, smoking is prohibited on all campus property at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign, both indoors and outdoors, in university-owned vehicles and in privately-owned vehicles parked on campus property. The advertising, sale, or free sampling of tobacco products is also prohibited on campus property. Littering the remains of tobacco products or any other related waste product on campus property is further prohibited
<a href="#">Iowa State University</a>		X		X	It is the policy of Iowa State University to comply with the Smokefree Air Act by declaring the entire university grounds and properties as a Smoke-Free Campus. Therefore, smoking is prohibited in "public buildings and vehicles owned, leased, or operated by or under the control of" the university as well as on the entire "grounds of the university." <i>Exceptions</i> : Smoking will be allowed in designated private apartments in university housing in accordance with Department of Residence policy; Smoking will be allowed in an enclosed area within the university that conducts a medical or scientific research or therapy program, if smoking is an integral part of the program

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<a href="#">University of Maryland, College Park</a>		X		X	Consistent with Maryland law, smoking is not permitted in any institution building, including academic buildings, residence halls, administrative buildings, other enclosed facilities, or vehicles; Smoking is prohibited on all institution grounds and property, including walkways, parking lots, and recreational and athletic areas; <i>Exceptions:</i> Smoking in and on institution property will be permitted only as follows: 1. For controlled research, and educational, theatrical, or religious ceremonial purposes, with prior approval of the President or the President’s designee; 2. In limited and specifically designated areas on University property and areas leased to third parties as may from time-to-time be approved by the President; or 3. Subject to any other exception to this policy recommended by the President and approved by the Chancellor
<a href="#">University of Michigan, Ann Arbor</a>		X		X	The University of Michigan has been a smoke-free campus since July 1, 2011, and that policy includes all buildings, facilities and university-owned vehicles
<a href="#">Michigan State University</a>	X		X		Smoking not permitted in any closed space, regardless of location, except specifically designated private residential space and hotel rooms. Smoking not permitted near exits and entrances of buildings, except at a reasonable distance or unless otherwise designated. *Reasonable distance guideline: 25 feet from exits and entrances unless otherwise designated

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<a href="#">University of Minnesota, Twin Cities</a>		X		X	The University of Minnesota, Crookston, Duluth, Rochester, and Twin Cities are smoke- and tobacco-free campuses. All students, staff, faculty, and visitors are prohibited from smoking and using, selling, free distributing, and advertising tobacco products and electronic cigarettes in all facilities and on all University property. Exceptions: approved scientific studies, approved cultural/spiritual ceremony, theatrical productions, enclosed privately owned vehicles
<a href="#">University of Missouri, Columbia</a>		X		X	In recognition of the health, safety and comfort benefits of smoke-free air and the responsibility to provide and maintain an optimally healthy and safe working and living environment for faculty, students, staff and visitors, the University of Missouri is smoke-free as of July 1, 2013
<a href="#">North Carolina State University</a>	X		X		Smoking not permitted in buildings or within 25 feet of entrance/exits
<a href="#">The Ohio State University</a>		X		X	Tobacco Free effective January 1, 2014

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<a href="#">Pennsylvania State University</a>		X		X	Smoking of any material is prohibited in all University facilities, at all locations, including University-owned vehicles. It also is prohibited in any outside area adjacent to a facility whose configuration and/or other physical circumstances allow smoke either to enter and affect the internal environment or to unduly affect the environment of those entering or exiting the facility. Exemptions to this policy may be made by the Smoking Policy Review Committee if the committee deems granting the exemption to be reasonable for business or research reasons as submitted by the unit that requests the exemption
<a href="#">University of Pittsburgh</a>	X		X		Smoking prohibited inside all university owned and leased facilities; prohibited within 15 feet of building primary entrances and HVAC intake vents of all university owned and leased property
<a href="#">Purdue University</a>		X	X		As of July 1, 2010, smoking will no longer be permitted on campus except in a limited number of designated areas
<a href="#">Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey</a>	X		X		Smoking is prohibited in all buildings owned and managed by the University except as indicated below. This shall include gymnasiums, stadiums, playing fields, and other recreational areas. Smoking is also prohibited in all University vehicles, and in residence halls. Permitted in graduate family housing and as part of theatrical productions



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<a href="#">State University of New York at Buffalo</a>		X		X	<a href="http://policy.business.buffalo.edu/Policy%20Library/Smoke-Free%20Policy.pdf">http://policy.business.buffalo.edu/Policy%20Library/Smoke-Free%20Policy.pdf</a>
<a href="#">University of Southern California</a>	X		X		Smoking is prohibited in enclosed buildings, within 10 feet of outdoor dining areas, facilities, vehicles, designated smoke-free areas, athletic events
<a href="#">Stony Brook University</a>	X		X		Smoking is prohibited in all indoor locations, enclosed areas, within 15 feet of any building entrance or ventilation system, at any outdoor event with seating, residence halls, university vehicles; exceptions: allowed in residence halls provided all residents in the room/suite approve in writing and the smoke does not migrate to adjacent areas, designated outdoor smoking shelters,
<a href="#">Texas A&amp;M University</a>		X	X		housing and athletic facilities, all indoor air space of university owned facilities and outdoor public seating areas in athletic arenas smoke free; eating areas smoke and tobacco free; buildings and vehicles smoke and tobacco free <a href="http://rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/34.05.99.M1.pdf">http://rules-saps.tamu.edu/PDFs/34.05.99.M1.pdf</a>

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<a href="#">The University of Texas at Austin</a>		X		X	<a href="http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf">http://www.no-smoke.org/pdf/smokefreecollegesuniversities.pdf</a> Tobacco-free campus as of April 9, 2012; 100% smoke-free as of March 1, 2013
<a href="#">The University of Washington, Seattle</a>	X		X		Some designated areas outside and buildings allow smoking; otherwise smoking is prohibited
<a href="#">University of Wisconsin, Madison</a>		X	X		All buildings, facilities, vehicles belonging to the university are smoke-free. Exceptions to smoke free policy are: some apartments, some hotel rooms. No smoking within 25 feet of entrnaces.