

**A Resolution of the Salisbury University Colleges' Against Cancer
Registered Student Organization Regarding the Policy to Completely
Ban Smoking on the Salisbury University Campus**

SUMMARY: Salisbury University's current smoking policy, which designates smoking areas around each campus building in order to limit exposure to secondhand smoke and to provide areas where people can smoke, has been difficult to enforce making it ineffective. Moreover, the current policy does not take into account high traffic areas on campus that are away from buildings. In locations such as Red Square, the Quad, and the TETC benches, smoking is allowed and thus those who chose not to smoke must involuntarily breathe in the secondhand smoke if they wish to use those facilities.

Complaints have surfaced from campus community members, who feel the ineffectiveness of the current policy is making it difficult for them to avoid exposure to smoke when entering buildings and traveling around campus. Because of the ineffectiveness of the current policy, a resolution to provide a smoke-free campus has been developed.

WHEREAS the campus of Salisbury University (SU) includes parking lots, athletic fields, tennis courts, and any other outdoor area owned or under the control of the university including inside any vehicle located on such grounds; and,

WHEREAS smoking is defined as the act of carrying or smoking a burning cigar, cigarette, pipe, or other tobacco product of any kind; and,

WHEREAS environmental tobacco smoke, also known as secondhand smoke, is defined as the complex mixture of the escaping smoke of a burning tobacco product or smoke exhaled by the smoker; and,

WHEREAS secondhand smoke has been classified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a Group A carcinogen (cancerous to humans); and,

WHEREAS the Surgeon General has stated that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke; and,

WHEREAS the current smoking policy of SU “identifies designated smoking areas for each campus building and prohibits smoking within 30 feet of all other building entrances;” and,

WHEREAS the enforcement of the existing policy would still allow for involuntary exposure of nonsmokers to environmental tobacco smoke in Red Square, the Quad, the benches at TETC and other outdoor areas; and,

WHEREAS the Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) Registered Student Organization (RSO) at SU strives to fight cancer by volunteering for and instating and supporting programs of the American Cancer Society; and,

WHEREAS SU Student Health Services promotes tobacco cessation for SU students; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution works to establish a completely smoke free environment on the SU campus; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED this policy applies to all persons on the SU campus at all times, including all students, faculty, staff, and visitors; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CAC RSO will work with the appropriate campus administration to identify the boundaries of the SU campus, and work to provide notice of these boundaries to the campus community, and the current tobacco product receptacles on campus will be placed along these boundaries; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CAC RSO will work with the appropriate campus administration to provide appropriate notice and signage to inform the campus community prior to full implementation of this policy, this will include but is not limited to campus e-mail, school web site, on campus flyers, and announcements at SGA Forums, and CAC will apply for grants and raise funds as needed for the implementation of this policy; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there will be transitional period of six months prior to the date of implementation where violators will receive a written warning in lieu of a fine, this six month period is by calendar date and can include summer months and other non-semester time periods; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon implementation of this policy, after the six-month transitional period, the CAC RSO will work with the appropriate administration on campus to enforce the policy in a fair and unbiased manner, this may include the development of an anonymous complaint hotline.

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Vote:

Therefore, the resolution: PASSES FAILS