

Date: April 17, 2006
To: Nancy Belck, Chancellor
From: Steve Massara, Student Body President/Regent
Subject: Proposal Summary; Smoking Limitation

Proposal: We, the students of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, overwhelmingly support the further limitation of smoking tobacco on University property. We propose **prohibiting all smoking on the “main corridor” of campus** from Kayser Hall to Durham Science Center. Please see attached map for further clarification. To accommodate the current smoking population, four major smoking areas would be designated on the peripheral sidewalks. The first smoking area would be located on the south side of Arts and Sciences building. The second designated area would be located between Roskins Hall and Eppley Administration Building. The third area would be located between Milo Bail Student Center and Strauss Performing Arts building. The fourth area would be located to the south of Durham Science Center and to the west of the Del and Lou Ann Weber Fine Arts building.

Rationale: Smoking tobacco products has been proven to be an addictive activity with serious health ramifications. While some students smoke on campus, 68% of students support a complete ban on campus according to Student Government survey performed this past March. An even larger majority support a smoking limitation compromise, with 75% in favor of such a proposal. A student forum was held and student input from the discussion was considered when creating this proposal. The current “ten foot rule” of smoking a specified distance from each building door is not adhered to and remains impossible to enforce. This proposal would limit smokers to four designated locations on campus and improve the probability of adherence due to decreased patrol areas; all this would be accomplished while providing the majority of UNO students with a smoke-free pedestrian walkway.

Benefits: The designation of a smoke-free corridor on campus would accrue numerous benefits.

- Address a heavily supported and vocalized need on this campus.
- Provide students with health concerns with an option to avoid tobacco smoke.
- Assist Environmental and Landscape Services by limiting the amount of litter in the mulch beds and grass on the most visible portion of our campus.
- Eliminate the concentration of smoke under the library walkway.
- Serve as a promotional and aesthetic recruitment tool for potential new students.

Funding & Design: Limited funding would be required for the implementation of this proposal. Grant monies from various coalitions have been pledged to help with the enforcement piece of this proposal. This money would allow for payment of student enforcement employees. Other monies could be utilized for new signage and markings where necessary.

Timeline: Our goal is to have the smoking limitation proposal instituted by the Spring Semester of 2007.

Next Steps:

- Meet with Jim Buck, Vice Chancellor of Administration to determine feasibility
- Meet with Hollis Glaser, President, Faculty Senate to determine feasibility

- Meet with Mary Sweeny, President, Staff Advisory Council to determine feasibility
- Consolidate suggestions and finalize any negotiable changes
- Resubmit to the Chancellor for final approval