

October 3, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

For the past year, a number of UC campuses, with our wholehearted encouragement, have been working towards the goal of becoming smoke-free environments. Unfortunately, this goal has met with varying degrees of opposition despite many other colleges and universities, including the entire CSU system, having adopted effective policies. As student health service directors, representing each of our 10 campuses in our membership on the UCOP Student Health Advisory Committee, we are charged with protecting and promoting the health of 220,000 students. In keeping with this duty, with a unanimous consensus of our professional opinion, we advise that all of the UC campuses should become smoke-free during the 08-09 school year and encourage you to join us in going forward with this effort.

The benefits of an environment without active smokers and secondhand smoke are very well known and will not be enumerated here except to point out that there is still a staggering burden of mortality and morbidity associated with both. In addition, there is NO known safe exposure to secondhand smoke. Some existing policies dictate permission to smoke a certain distance from buildings (usually 20-50 feet) but in fact, these guidelines still put all those walking through these areas at risk and does not promote a smoke-free environment.

During 2007-08, there were three published articles which should greatly influence UC's smoking policy. A study in the May issue of the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine confirmed that smoking bans discourage tobacco use in teens. Similarly, but applying to all age groups, a statistical analysis published in the New England Journal of Medicine in the same month revealed that smokers are differentially affected by the smoking behavior of others and social marginalization ensues, especially among those more highly educated. Finally, in its November-December issue, Sierra Magazine published the article "Cool Schools" in which the nation's top 10 most environmentally conscious colleges and universities were listed. The UC system ranked in 4th place for its efforts to create greener campuses. While we applaud our university for this honor, we believe that a truly green campus is devoid of cigarette butts on the ground and cigarette smoke in the air.

We, the undersigned, would like to invoke the "Power of 10" and very strongly support a movement to bring smoke-free policies to all of our UC campuses as soon as possible. In so doing, we would anticipate that the University of California would be a healthier and greener environment with many fewer student smokers. We would greatly appreciate your timely consideration of this issue.

Claudia Covello/Steve Lustig (UCB), Michelle Famula (UCD), Alice Wong (UCI), Jo Ann Dawson (UCLA), Greg Spurgeon (UCM), Deb McCoy (UCR), Elizabeth Downing (UCSB), Brian Murray (UCSD), Drew Malloy (UCSC), Henry Kahn (UCSF)

February 19, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

For the past few years, a number of UC campuses, with our wholehearted encouragement, have been working towards the goal of becoming smoke-free environments. Unfortunately, with the exception of UCSF, this goal has met with varying degrees of opposition despite many other colleges and universities, including the entire CSU system, having adopted effective policies. As student health service directors, representing each of our 10 campuses in our membership on the UCOP Student Health Advisory Committee, we are charged with protecting and promoting the health of 220,000 students. In keeping with this duty, with a unanimous consensus of our professional opinion, we advise that all of the UC campuses should become smoke-free during the 2010-11 school year and encourage you to join us in going forward with this effort.

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Over the past several years, there have been at least three published articles which should greatly influence UC's smoking policy. A study in the May, 2008 issue of the Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine confirmed that smoking bans discourage tobacco use in teens. Similarly, but applying to all age groups, a statistical analysis published in the New England Journal of Medicine in the same month revealed that smokers are differentially affected by the smoking behavior of others and social marginalization ensues, especially among those more highly educated. Finally, in its November-December issues in 2008 and

2009, Sierra Magazine published the article "Cool Schools" in which the nation's top 10 most environmentally conscious colleges and universities were listed. The UC system was included in this important ranking both years for its efforts to create greener campuses. While we applaud our university for this honor, we believe that a truly green campus is devoid of cigarette butts on the ground and cigarette smoke in the air.

Of especial note, the American College Health Association, this past fall, 2009, came out with a position statement on Tobacco on College and University Campuses, adopting a NO TOBACCO USE policy encouraging all colleges and universities to achieve a 100% indoor and outdoor campus-wide tobacco-free environment.

We, the undersigned, would like to invoke the "Power of 10" and very strongly support a movement to bring smoke-free policies to all of our UC campuses as soon as possible. In so doing, we would anticipate that the University of California would be a healthier and greener environment with many fewer student smokers. We would greatly appreciate your timely consideration of this issue.

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Henry Kahn, M.D./Adele Anfinson, M.H.A. (UCSF)