UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH

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Health and Safety Committee
April 3, 2012

"Is UW Oshkosh Ready to Adopt a Tobacco-Free Campus?"

There is an initiative currently underway, to explore the readiness of campus to become a tobacco-free campus. The committee's work is sponsored by the Health and Safety Committee, through assistance from a small grant.

- There is a trend nation-wide of universities establishing tobacco-free campuses to promote the health of their students, faculty, and staff. Currently over 500 universities are Tobacco Free. UWS campuses either currently Tobacco Free, or exploring the concept are: UW Stout (tobacco-free); and UWSP, UW Superior, UWRF, and UWWW are exploring tobacco free.

- Health and Safety Committee activated a small task force to explore this concept. The task force is led by student co-chairs Buckley Fechter and Stephanie Krueger. Dana Merriman and Jamie Schwister are faculty/staff advisors, and Kim Freier and Pam Macwilliams as staff appointments.

- An all-campus email will announce this effort next week, and begin informing campus of the plans by the task force.

- Two awareness activities will take place in the next two months.

- A campus survey to gather opinions during the Fall semester 2012.

- This fall, additional events, forums, and meetings will be held to talk about the potential to designate UW Oshkosh as a Tobacco Free Campus.

- The goal is only to explore by end of fall 2012 semester (through a democratic process, engaging the campus in discussion) and make a decision, working with governance groups on campus. The goal is to have a decision by end of fall semester 2012.

- For more information, check the Health and Safety Committee current initiatives on their website at: http://www.uwosh.edu/safety

The charge of the Health and Safety Committee is to review health and safety concerns, work to resolve issues or problems informally where possible, and provide recommendations to the administration.