

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.

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