Morningside and Lamont Campus Smoking Policy: Two-Year Evaluation

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Task Force Members

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- **Elaine Larson**, Professor, Faculty of Nursing and Professor of Epidemiology, **P&S**, Co-Chair
- **Francis Y. Lee**, Associate Professor, Orthopaedic Surgery, **P&S**, Co-Chair
- **Michael McNeil**, Director, Alice! Health Promotion Program, **Morningside**
- **Consuelo Mora-McLaughlin**, Senior Research Worker, Department of Neurology, **P&S**
- **Stefan Mrozewski**, Senior Staff Associate, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory
- **Richard Sun**, Student, Columbia College, **Morningside**
Smoking Task Force Charges

Assessment of 20-ft No Smoking Rule in 2012

Smoking Policy Task Force, May 2012

Assess Implementation?, May-Sept, 2012

Three Meetings and Field Surveys

Field Survey: Disposal, Signage and Enforcement?

Suggestions?

Smoking Policy in Peer Institutions?

Future Direction
Cigarette Receptacles: CU North

- Cigarette Receptacles (Total 7 found)
Cigarette Butt Disposal: CU North

x: Trash
Cigarette Butts: CU South

# = number of butts outside receptacles
R = receptacle

Number of butts by each of the three benches

Butler Library

South Field West

South Field East

Hamilt

Furnald

Lerner Hall

Carman

Bookstore

Sundial

Pulitzer

Dodge Miller Theatre

Kent

John Jay

Wallach

Hartley
Cigarette Butts: CU

Low Library, northeast door. Many butts right outside door and within 10 feet of entrance.

Dodge Hall, north side. At least 50 butts within five feet of door and next to garbage can and large ashtray.
Cigarette Butts: CU

Mathematics Building. Prominent sign on east door. Butts within five feet of sign at entrance.

St. Paul’s Chapel, within 10 feet of door and on steps.
Receptacles <20 feet?: CU

Outside Carman Hall
(undergraduate residence hall)

Outside the Journalism School

Outside Lerner Hall
No Smoking Signage?

Buell Hall. Butts at entrance within five feet of “No Smoking” sign.

Lewisohn Hall. Multiple butts within a few feet of “No Smoking” sign.

Kent Hall. “No Smoking” sign in window. Not prominent; no other signs noted.

Earl Hall, east side. “No Smoking” sign lying behind bench.
Policy in Other Schools and NYC

• The American Nonsmokers Rights Foundation documents more than 760 smoke-free campuses, including NYU, and more than 550 tobacco-free campuses.
## Smoking Policies at Other Ivies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Smoking policy details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harvard</td>
<td>Smoking prohibited indoors and within 25 feet of buildings everywhere; indoors and outdoors at Medical School campus, Business School and Kennedy School. Last fall, a Harvard student task force embarked on an initiative to institute a smoke-free policy within the university, starting with a proposed ban in <strong>Harvard Yard</strong>. An editorial in the Harvard Crimson argued that instead, the current 25-foot policy should be more strictly enforced and that cessation services be expanded.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Penn</td>
<td>Smoking prohibited indoors. They have considered and for the present rejected the ideas of a smoke-free campus and of only hiring nonsmokers. No controversies regarding smoking were evident from the Daily Pennsylvanian.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Princeton</td>
<td>Smoking prohibited indoors. A search of the Daily Princetonian revealed no controversy about smoking on campus in recent years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale</td>
<td>Smoking prohibited indoors in areas where five or more employees work. There are designated smoking areas.</td>
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<td>Brown</td>
<td>Smoking prohibited indoors. A search turned up no articles in recent years in the student newspaper regarding smoking bans on campus. As of last winter, Rhode Island was considering banning smoking in outdoor public areas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornell</td>
<td>Smoking prohibited indoors and within 25 feet of buildings, except in certain designated areas including Greek Life facilities owned by Cornell.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dartmouth</td>
<td>Smoking prohibited indoors. A search turned up no articles in recent years in the student newspaper regarding smoking bans.</td>
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Five Recommendations

1. **Enhanced signage**, with more signs strategically located and including information about policy enforcement and tobacco cessation programs. **Standardization** of “no smoking” signage to enhance effectiveness and recognition.

2. A multimedia informational campaign regarding the policy and the cessation supports available.

3. **Sufficient numbers and types of receptacles** located in areas that are compliant with the policy.
Five Recommendations

4. Additional communication of language regarding policy enforcement. Enforcement language already exists in the current policy and it is incumbent on each member of the University community to ensure compliance with this and all other University policies.

5. Ongoing assessment of the adherence to the policy with metrics such as numbers of staff, students, or faculty who participate in tobacco cessation programs and random audits of signage, smoking receptacles and cigarette butt disposal.
Summary

• According to a resolution adopted in 2010, smoking is currently prohibited within 20 feet of university buildings. A smoking cessation program is available at CU.

• We concluded that the “no smoking within 20 feet of buildings” policy is poorly implemented across the entire campus (scattered cigarette butts<20 feet; receptacles <20 feet; poor signage).

• Implementation and enforcement of a “no smoking within 20 feet of buildings” policy will require multiple strategies, the use of all available means of communication, and ongoing reinforcement.
Discussion

Future Direction?

20-foot No Smoking Policy
- Campaign
- Signage
- Receptacles
- Enforcement
- Cessation Program

50-foot No Smoking Policy

Smoke-Free Campus