

Hampshire College  
Tobacco Task Force  
March 7, 2011

Members Present: Adam Ortiz, Linda Mollison, Katie Keating, RaeAnn Wentworth, Jessica Gifford, Nancy Apple, Chris Jarvis, Sara Aierstuck, Larry Archey  
Members Absent: Sarah Chotkowski, Lauren Majella Casey

Documents Distributed:

“How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease”, US Department of Health and Human Services  
Surgeon General, 2010.

“Canadian Campus Smoking Policies: Investigating the Gap Between Intent and Outcome From a Student Perspective”, Lynne Baillie et. al., Journal of American College Health, Vol, 59, No. 4, 2011.

The minutes of February 7, 2011 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Adam described his experience in Dakin since arriving as a House Director. Many non-smokers are struggling with the issue of other students smoking inside residential buildings. The Dakin interns have done poster campaigns and each resident was given a packet about smoking at the beginning of the semester. Students have been told they can call Public Safety to report indoor smoking. Two students have received disciplinary action based on complaints and Public Safety response. The first step in disciplinary action is house probation along with developing a poster and writing a personal reflection. A subsequent violation would result in the student being moved to a different housing area.

Linda reported that evidence of smoking is documented during fire drills, and referred to House Directors, and during fire health and safety common room inspections once a semester. It was pointed out that expecting interns to be an enforcer would require a change in the culture with regard to the role of interns.

The issue of monetary fines was raised. Fines were issued last year for covered smoke detectors, which has been replaced this year with house probation and community service. Several members felt strongly that fines should be reinstated and include evidence of smoking. One argument against fines is that they penalize those students with limited ability to pay more than students without limited funds. There is, however, an appeal process and last year fines were reduced for at least one student based on limited ability to pay. Other colleges including Amherst and UMass have fines and loss of housing for subsequent offenses.

The possibility of a housing preference designation such as “smoke intolerant” was discussed. There was a desire to make the language broader and it is important that such a designation not legitimize smoking in other areas.

Other suggestions included:

- moving disposal receptacles away from buildings
- effort to drive home the impact on the community
- emphasis on corporate influence on smoking
- campaign to show 25 foot line around buildings
- make nicotine replacement available for free

The task force was divided into groups to work on specific recommendations before the next meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Enforcement: Adam, Linda, Nancy  
Infrastructure/visibility: Larry, Katie, Rae-Ann  
Prevention/Education” Sara, Jessica, Chris