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March 12, 2012

Dear President Williams,

I am writing on behalf of my fellow governance body leaders, Paulette Penzvalto, President of the Graduate Student Governance Association and Alan Hagerty, President of Undergraduate Student Government to report to you on the results of our concurrent governance session held on March 8, 2012. First, however, I want to take a moment to convey my own impression that our student governance bodies are vibrantly representative of the excellence across our graduate and undergraduate programs. Our room was filled to capacity; the students came with thoughtful viewpoints and presented their cases very well. Speaking parochially as a political scientist, it was terrific to witness a commitment to representative action and service.

The meeting took up two resolutions that had been developed over the past two months in joint discussions and meetings (see attached). The first proposal was developed in coordination with our new Director of Public Safety and creates a new Advisory Committee on Public Safety (ACOPS). This mechanism will improve the institution's capacity to engage as a university community on the issues of safety and security. It passed all three governance bodies without objection and, therefore, we will move with Chief Cureton to initiate the committee.

As you anticipated, the Taskforce on Smoking Policy recommendations engendered a range of reactions. Each set of representatives spent the last month consulting with their respective constituencies and presented those viewpoints. To begin the meeting, the undergraduate students amended their resolution to support a smoke-free rather than tobacco free campus. Both the graduate students and faculty did not agree to modify the originally proposed tobacco-free resolution.

The undergraduate students strongly supported moving towards a smoke free campus with a near unanimous vote. Furthermore, the graduate students were unanimously opposed and the faculty was nearly tied on moving towards a tobacco free campus outlined in the original proposed resolution (see attached resolutions and vote totals). Our collective sense is that there is consensus on improving the current policy in ways outlined in the Taskforce report to make it more effective in its impact and, importantly, effort should be directed toward that end in the near-term. Fundamentally, the current policy rests on balancing the rights of the individual to use any form of tobacco on campus and the rights of others to clean air and quality health. We, of course, stand ready to provide additional details if you wish.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Harknett, PhD  
Chair of the University Faculty

Alan Hagerty  
Undergraduate Student Body President

Paulette Penzvalto  
Graduate Student Body President

## **ACOPS Resolution**

**Passed unanimously across all three governance bodies**

On March 8, 2012

Be it Resolved, the \_\_\_\_\_ (governance body) recommends the creation of a multi-constituency—undergraduate, graduate student, faculty and staff-- advisory committee to the Director of Public Safety that will begin operation no later than September 2012 based on the attached proposal.

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### Advisory Committee on Public Safety (ACOPS)

Charge: This committee will advise the Director of Public Safety on University safety and security issues, policies, and programs. The committee will facilitate communication with the university community and seek to represent constituent perspectives to the Department of Public Safety. The committee will organize a Public Safety General Assembly at a minimum of once a semester, so that wide and direct participation from the university community is facilitated.

Membership: In order to sustain the committee, the faculty and student governance bodies will elect, through mechanisms they establish, two (2) representatives to ACOPS each. The Director of Public Safety will appoint the two (2) staff representatives and appoint appropriate members of the Department of Safety.

Responsibilities of Members: Representatives shall commit to attending the regular meetings of ACOPS, participate in the General Assembly, and be available for consultation with the Director of Public Safety when issues arise between regularly scheduled meetings.

Meeting Schedule: ACOPS will meet twice a semester as a committee and hold one meeting during the semester as an open meeting (General Assembly) in a venue accessible to the wider university community. The Director of Public Safety may call ACOPS into unscheduled session to consult on matters that require more immediate attention.

**Resolution Concerning the Smoking Policy Taskforce Report of December 5, 2011**  
**Undergraduate Student Government**  
**Passed 19-2**  
**March 8, 2012**

**Whereas**, in response to joint resolutions from Faculty Senate, Undergraduate Student Government, and Graduate Student Government Association passed on February 24, 2011, President Gregory Williams formed a multi-constituency Smoking Task Force to review the current regulations on smoking as per board rule 3361:10-17-06 Conduct and ethics: smoking regulations, and

**Whereas**, the Smoking Task Force conducted a study of current policy and provided a thirty-one page report to the President on December 5, 2011 finding that for the health and wellness of all members of the campus community, the university should prepare to move towards becoming a tobacco free campus, and

**Whereas**, the Smoking Task Force recommends that such preparation include several key steps to insure a tobacco free campus policy will be implemented successfully, including, “reassuring resolutions from the Faculty Senate, the Student Government Association, and the Graduate Student Government Association”;

**Be it Resolved**, that Undergraduate Student Government upon review of the Smoking Taskforce Report recommends that for the health and wellness of all members of the campus community, the university should prepare to move towards becoming a smoke free campus through the steps outlined in the Taskforce Report. However, at this time Undergraduate Student Government does not endorse moving toward becoming a tobacco free campus. To enhance campus-wide buy-in, once fully developed, the proposed new policy should be vetted through the normal shared governance advisory process.

**Resolution Concerning the Smoking Policy Taskforce Report of December 5, 2011**  
**Defeated unanimously in Graduate Student Governance Association**  
**Defeated 8-10 in Faculty Senate**  
**On March 8, 2012**

**Whereas**, in response to joint resolutions from Faculty Senate, Undergraduate Student Government, and Graduate Student Government Association passed on February 24, 2011, President Gregory Williams formed a multi-constituency Smoking Task Force to review the current regulations on smoking as per board rule 3361:10-17-06 Conduct and ethics: smoking regulations, and

**Whereas**, the Smoking Task Force conducted a study of current policy and provided a thirty-one page report to the President on December 5, 2011 finding that for the health and wellness of all members of the campus community, the university should prepare to move towards becoming a tobacco free campus, and

**Whereas**, the Smoking Task Force recommends that such preparation include several key steps to insure a tobacco free campus policy will be implemented successfully, including, “reassuring resolutions from the Faculty Senate, the Student Government Association, and the Graduate Student Government Association”;

**Be it Resolved**, that \_\_\_\_\_ (name of governing body) upon review of the Smoking Taskforce Report endorses the Taskforce’s central finding that for the health and wellness of all members of the campus community, the university should prepare to move towards becoming a tobacco free campus through the steps outlined in the Taskforce Report. To enhance campus-wide buy-in, once fully developed, the proposed new policy should be vetted through the normal shared governance advisory process.