

Report to the Community on Work to Date
From the Task Force on a Tobacco-Free Campus
December 9, 2011

Pacific Lutheran University is committed to sustaining a healthy, safe, and caring community. Among our core values as a community is the promotion of sound minds and sound bodies. The use of tobacco is not in keeping with our commitments and values. It is a health hazard and is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States. More than 1,000 Americans die every day from tobacco-related illnesses, and more than eight million Americans are living with diseases directly attributable to smoking. For these reasons, on June 1, 2012, PLU will become a tobacco-free campus.

We recognize that tobacco cessation can be both a physical and psychological challenge, and we are committed to supporting students, faculty and staff through this transition. For those seeking to quit tobacco use, we offer a supportive, nurturing, and non-judgmental environment. Our initiatives include tobacco cessation classes for students and staff and one-on-one counseling for students through the University Health Center. Further, we will continue to educate our community about the hazards associated with tobacco use, provide resources, and encourage healthy behaviors.

As a premier institution of higher learning, we seek not only to graduate healthy students and employ healthy staff, but to serve as an example for the community around us. As we eliminate tobacco use from our campus, we hope that the trend will continue, and that other communities—in Washington state and beyond—will follow our lead toward a healthier tomorrow.

Implementation

The successful implementation of the new policy will depend on the courtesy and cooperation of the entire campus community.

Appropriate signage will be posted in campus facilities, on the PLU website and elsewhere to inform members of the campus community and visitors of the Tobacco-Free Campus Policy.

The policy will be communicated in appropriate university publications and contracts. University publications include but are not limited to electronic notifications, handbooks, brochures and other university-generated materials. Small cards, as friendly reminders, will be printed with policy information as well as cessation resources.

The policy will be effective June 1, 2012 and will apply to the entire campus. Boundaries for campus may be found [here](#). Compliance with the policy is expected.

Substances and Delivery

Tobacco includes any lit cigarettes, cigars, pipes and hookahs (except for cultural and religious celebrations); use of snus, snuff, chewing tobacco and e-cigarettes.

(E-cigarettes are not FDA approved devices, and banned in public places in Pierce County. Link to the Pierce County Dept. of Health FAQ on e-cigarettes <http://www.tpchd.org/files/library/d44ff6b8c6a8edc1.pdf>)

Responsibilities

It will be the shared responsibility of all members of the campus community to respect and abide by the policy.

Vice presidents, deans, directors, department chairs, supervisors from each division and event sponsors will communicate the policy within their areas of responsibility.

PLU will provide access to tobacco cessation resources to both students and employees.

Enforcement

Courtesy and consideration will be exercised when informing others unaware of and/or in disregard of the policy. No retaliation will occur to any person for requesting compliance with the policy or reporting an alleged violation.

A complaint concerning non adherence may be referred to a dean, director, other manager, or the Office of Student Conduct. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken for non adherence against whom multiple complaints have been received.

1. Students – Complaints regarding PLU students will be directed to and handled by the Division of Student Life and the office of Student Conduct.
2. Faculty – Complaints regarding PLU faculty will be directed to and handled by the department chair and/or dean, as deemed appropriate by faculty and Human Resources policies.
3. Staff and Administrators– Complaints regarding PLU staff and administrators will be directed to and handled by immediate supervisor or director, as deemed appropriate by Human Resources policies.
4. Visitors – Complaints regarding Visitors will be directed to and handled by Campus Safety. The visitor may be asked to leave university premises for failure to comply.