

## **Minutes of the Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee meeting Wednesday, April 27, 2016**

The Vermont State Colleges Board of Trustees Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee met on April 27, 2016 at the Chancellor's Office in Montpelier.

Committee members present: Kraig Hannum (Chair), Karen Luneau, Martha O'Connor, Mike Pieciak, Ben Simone

Absent: Lynn Dickinson, Jim Masland

Presidents: Elaine Collins, Joyce Judy, Dan Smith

From the Chancellor's Office: Elaine Sopchak, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor  
Jeb Spaulding, Chancellor  
Sophie Zdatny, Associate General Counsel  
Yasmine Ziesler, Chief Academic & Academic Technology Officer

From the Colleges: Joe Cioffi, Student Council Controller, Lyndon State College  
Jonathan Danovich, Student Council Treasurer, VT Technical College  
Tony Pepper, Academic Dean, Castleton University  
Jay Paterson, Dean of Student Affairs, Vermont Technical College  
Dave Bergh, Dean of Students, Johnson State College  
Barb Flathers, Assistant to the Dean of Students, Johnson State College  
Amanda Owen, Student Council President, Vermont Technical College  
Dennis Proulx, Dean of Students, Castleton University  
Jonathan Davis, Dean of Students, Lyndon State College  
Heather Weinstein, Dean of Students, Community College of Vermont  
Nolan Atkins, Interim Academic Dean, Lyndon State College  
3 students

Guests: Dr. Harry Chen, Vermont Commissioner of Health  
Mariah Sanderson, Coordinator - Vermont Tobacco Free College Campus Initiative  
Eoana Sturges, Tobacco Program Manager, Vermont Department of Health

The meeting was not called to order due to lack of quorum at the start. Dr. Chen presented information on tobacco-free college campuses to those present. Trustee Pieciak arrived.

Chancellor Spaulding requested that the Board receive information about how the University of Vermont and St. Michael's College created their plans and policies for implementing a tobacco-free campus.

Chair Hannum called the meeting to order at 6:28 p.m. and announced an agenda addition to discuss the awarding of an honorary degree. Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Simone seconded the agenda addition.

Trustee Pieciak moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the resolution to award an honorary degree. Dr. Ziesler recommended an amendment to the resolution as follows:

RESOLVED, that ~~the VSC Board of Trustees, subject to review and recommendation of~~ the Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee ~~recommends to the Board to ; authorizes~~ Vermont Technical College to award Ken Squier of Stowe, Vermont, an honorary Doctorate of Applied Science at its May 22, 2016 commencement ceremony.

The Committee approved the resolution as amended unanimously.

Trustee Luneau moved to remove item 3.d. VSC Faculty Fellow nominations from the consent agenda. Trustee Simone seconded.

Trustee Luneau moved and Trustee Pieciak seconded the approval of the remaining consent agenda items. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.

Trustee Pieciak moved and Trustee Luneau seconded the resolution Vermont State Colleges Faculty Fellows. Dr. Ziesler recognized nominees Dr. Andre Fleche, Professor of History at Castleton University, and Dr. Alexandre Strokanov, Professor of History at Lyndon State College. The Committee approved the resolution unanimously.

Interim Academic Dean Dr. Nolan Atkins presented the preliminary proposal for Lyndon State's Master of Science in Mental Health Counseling program.

Dr. Ziesler introduced potential updates to Policy 109.

Chair Hannum adjourned the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

VSC Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee Business: Consent Agenda

WHEREAS, At its April 27, 2016 meeting the VSC Education, Personnel, and Student Life Committee discussed the business items outlined below; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Committee has voted to approve the items outlined below and recommends them to the full Board:

- Minutes of January 13, 2016 meeting
- Proposed revision to VSC Policy 208: Criminal Background Check Policy
- Status of Programs under 2015 Policy 109 Review
- VSC Faculty Fellow nominations

May 26, 2016

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

Vermont State Colleges Faculty Fellowship

- WHEREAS, Article 42 of the current Agreement with the Vermont State Colleges Faculty Federation calls for the Board of Trustees to recognize up to two VSC tenured faculty for “outstanding accomplishments in teaching and learning” by establishing Vermont State Colleges Faculty Fellowships; and
- WHEREAS, The VSC Faculty Fellows committee, comprised of EPSL Committee Chair Kraig Hannum, VSC Chief Academic Officer Yasmine Ziesler, and VSCFF President Andrew Myrick, reviewed the nominations received for VSC Faculty Fellowships; and
- WHEREAS, The committee recommends that Andre Fleche, Associate Professor of History at Castleton University be awarded a VSC faculty fellowship for academic year 2016-2017; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That Andre Fleche, Associate Professor of History at Castleton University, be awarded a VSC Faculty Fellowship for the academic year 2016-2017 with all the associated rights and privileges.

May 26, 2016

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES


BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION

Vermont State Colleges Faculty Fellowship


- WHEREAS, Article 42 of the current Agreement with the Vermont State Colleges Faculty Federation calls for the Board of Trustees to recognize up to two VSC tenured faculty for “outstanding accomplishments in teaching and learning” by establishing Vermont State Colleges Faculty Fellowships; and
- WHEREAS, The VSC Faculty Fellows committee, comprised of EPSL Committee Chair Kraig Hannum, VSC Chief Academic Officer Yasmine Ziesler, and VSCFF President Andrew Myrick, reviewed the nominations received for VSC Faculty Fellowships; and
- WHEREAS, The committee recommends that Alexandre Strokanov, Professor of History at Lyndon State College be awarded a VSC faculty fellowship for academic year 2016-2017; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, That Alexandre Strokanov, Professor of History at Lyndon State College, be awarded a VSC Faculty Fellowship for the academic year 2016-2017 with all the associated rights and privileges.

May 26, 2016



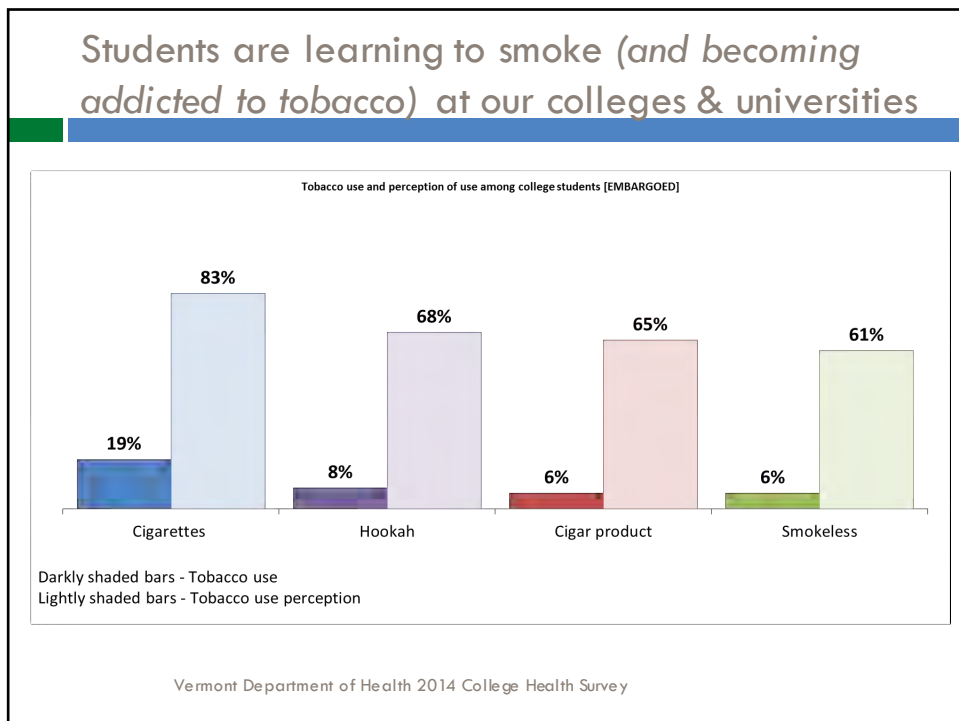
## Vermont

### Tobacco Free College Campus Initiative



Commissioner Harry Chen. MD

April 27, 2016



## Nationwide Tobacco/Smoke Free College & University Progress

- The number of smoke free policies in work places, public places, and housing is a national movement.
- As of **April 4, 2016**, there are at least **1,483** 100% smoke free campuses. Of these, **1,137** are 100% tobacco-free, and **823** prohibit the use of e-cigarettes anywhere on campus.
- Several states have directed *all* state and/or community college and university campuses to implement policies: OK, GA, LA, CA, IL, IA, ME, NY.

## Georgia's Tobacco/Smoke Free College & University Progress

- Implemented tobacco free college and university campus policies at 20 institutions with 37 campuses in 2012.
- 18-24 year old smoking prevalence dropped from 25% in 2011 to 16% in 2014.

### America's Health Rankings

**Georgia    40<sup>th</sup>                      Vermont    2<sup>nd</sup>**

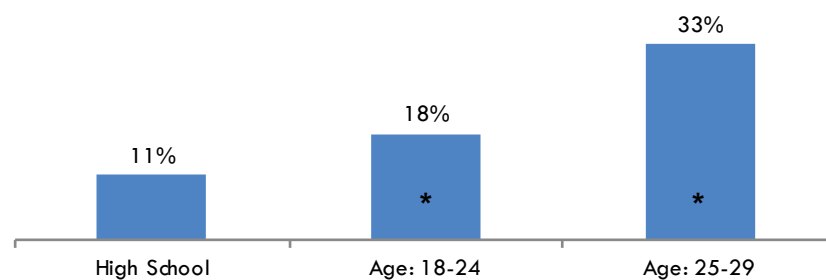
- Yet *all* their colleges are smoke free and they have a lower 18-24 year old smoking prevalence than the 2<sup>nd</sup> healthiest state in the nation!

## Northeast Tobacco/Smoke Free College & University Progress

State	# of Institutions / # of campuses	BRFSS 2014* Cigarette Smoking Prevalence Adult (18+)	YRBS 2013 Cigarette Smoking Prevalence Youth (grades 9-12)
CT	4 / 4	15%	14%
ME	9 / 19	19%	13%
MA	21 / 27 campuses	15%	11%
NH	1 / 1 (currently investigating for their state school system)	18%	14%
NY	37 / 89	14%	11%
RI	2 / 6	16%	8%
VT	**1 / 1 (UVM in 2015, St. Michael's in September 2016)	16%	13%

## Smoking Prevalence Increases after High School and throughout Young Adulthood

### Vermont Cigarette Smoking Prevalence in High School and Young Adulthood



Source: 2015 YRBS & 2014 BRFSS

\* Indicates statistically significant difference

Vermont Department of Health



## Benefits of Tobacco/Smoke Free Colleges & Universities

- ▣ **Data indicates there is a clear connection between smoking bans and smoking rates declining.**
- ▣ Reinforces healthy behaviors including quit activity; reduces triggers including secondhand smoke exposure; helps change social norms/misperceptions around tobacco use.
- ▣ Reduces liability and costs and cigarette butts litter.
- ▣ Creates a culture of wellness for everyone who lives and works on campus.
- ▣ Because a majority of students don't use tobacco, tobacco free campuses are more - not less - attractive to students entering college.
- ▣ Preparing students for the work place. Nonsmoking workers are more desired: *fewer sick days* due to tobacco related illness and *lower employer-related healthcare costs*.\*

## The Impact of Smoking: Staff

- ▣ Higher absenteeism, presenteesim, lost time to smoking breaks, and higher healthcare and pension costs.
- ▣ Numerous employers have are now charging smokers higher premiums for health insurance.
- ▣ Estimated annual excess cost to employ a smoker = \$5816.
- ▣ Employees who smoke impose significant excess costs on private employers.
- ▣ Trending: employers with policies stating they will not hire smokers.

Vermont Department of Health

## The Impact of Smoking: Students

- The total *number* of youth and young adults who started smoking increased from 1.9 million in 2002 to 2.3 million in 2012.
- 88% of all current adult smokers started before age 18
- Almost 99% of all current adult smokers started before age 26
  - The fraction of smoking initiation occurring after 18 years of age has been increasing over the past decade.
- Nearly half of adult smokers transition to regular, daily smoking before age 18; and more than three-quarters transition to regular, daily smoking before they turn 21.

Vermont Department of Health

## The Impact of Smoking

- The average adult smoker makes 8 – 11 quit attempts before long-term success.

### Quit Attempts Made

High school 42%

Ages 18-24 69%

Ages 25-34 62%

- The longer a person smokes, the greater the risk for chronic diseases including cancer.
- Young adults want to quit and are more likely than were older adults to quit smoking successfully.

Vermont Department of Health

## The Impact of Nicotine

Exposure to nicotine is also a problem.

- ▣ Brain maturation period occurs between ages 10 to 25.
- ▣ Smoking cigarettes during adolescence has been associated with lasting cognitive and behavioral impairments, including effects on working memory and attention.
- ▣ Nicotine exposure, increasingly occurring as a result of e-cigarette use, may induce changes in gene function that sensitize the brain to other drugs and prime it for future substance abuse.

## Addressing Common Concerns

- ▣ Enforcement
  - ▣ Include all campus members, use signage, provide handbooks, give reminders
- ▣ Costs
  - ▣ \*Signage
- ▣ Lower Student Enrollment
  - ▣ UNC Study - No significant differences were found in student enrollment or applications when comparing years prior to and following policy implementation or when comparing with institutions without 100% tobacco-free campus policies.



## Strategies & Tips from Colleges & Universities

1. Assess the campus
2. Build a campus Coalition/Task-force/Steering Committee
3. Set goals, a policy timeline, and create an action plan
4. Develop policy and provide clear language on how the policy will be enforced
5. Educate/Communicate
6. Plan for implementation, compliance and sustainability
7. Evaluate Success/Campus Impact

## Vermont Tobacco/Smoke Free College & University Resources

- Policy planning, implementation and ongoing support through VDH Tobacco Control Program, TFCCI and network of community coalitions & district offices
- Free cessation training for college health staff
- 802Quits.org resources
- Low cost signage
- Vermont's Tobacco Free College Campus

Initiative website:

<http://www.tobaccofreecampusvt.org/>



Together, Let's Help Vermont College Students

Graduate with a degree;  
not a nicotine addiction.

