



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
**WHITEWATER**

University Staff Council

## USC Resolution 2016-R001

March 10, 2016

Sponsor: Linda Marx

Co-Sponsor: Adelaide Atkielski

Author: Denise Donahoe Ehren

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### RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF WHITEWATER STUDENT GOVERNMENT S15-16:02 STUDENT HEALTH AND FREEDOM ACT

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WHEREAS the Whitewater Student Government voted on February 8, 2016, not to endorse a tobacco free campus policy recommendation submitted by the Chancellor's Tobacco Task Force; and

WHEREAS the Whitewater Student Government passed S15-16:02 Student Health and Freedom Act on February 29, 2016, in support of individual lifestyle decisions within the boundaries of the law, even if those decisions may be detrimental to an individual's personal health; and

WHEREAS the Whitewater Student Government acknowledged and resolved in the act to continue defending individual health decisions; and

WHEREAS the University Staff Council shares the belief it is an individual's right to decide personal health decisions, even if those decisions may be detrimental to an individual's personal health; and

WHEREAS the University Staff Council acknowledges that current campus tobacco policy is regulated by state law, but applies only to tobacco items which produce smoke; and

WHEREAS the University Staff Council voted not to endorse a tobacco free campus on December 8, 2014; and

WHEREAS the University Staff Council approved a motion on December 3, 2015:

*"in the spirit of inclusion and acceptance of diverse lifestyle choices, to support a ban within the interior of University owned or leased buildings only, and within 25 feet of the exterior doors of University owned or leased buildings, the use of all tobacco products including electronic and vape pens, cigarettes, hookahs, and other smokeless tobacco products."*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the University Staff Council supports and endorses the principles of Whitewater Student Government S15-16:02 Student Health and Freedom Act; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the University Staff Council does not support or endorse the Chancellor's Tobacco Task Force recommendation of a full campus tobacco ban; and

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the University Staff Council will continue to recognize the need for and enforcement of a tobacco ban in accordance with State of Wisconsin law.

Date: 4/7/2016

Action:  Approved  
 Rejected  
 Tabled  
 Other:

Vote Detail: 8 Aye  
0 Nay  
       Abstain

Other: None  
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S15-16:02

Submitted by: Nehemiah J Chinavare  
Sponsored by: Sen. Arshem  
Sen. Gentle, Sen. Mende, Sen. O'Dell, Sen. Rusch, Sen. Thommes, Sen. Young

### **Student Health and Freedom Act**

**WHEREAS**, Whitewater Student Government serves all students attending the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater; and,

**WHEREAS**, Whitewater Student Government strives to provide an effective, inclusive, and supportive learning and living environment for all students attending the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater; and,

**WHEREAS**, Whitewater Student Government recognizes that students have the right to make their own lifestyle decisions within the boundaries of the law, even if those decisions may be detrimental to their personal health; and,

**WHEREAS**, Whitewater Student Government recognizes the harmful effects of tobacco products on human health; and,

**WHEREAS**, the use of tobacco products is legal in the state of Wisconsin for individuals 18 years of age or older; and,

**WHEREAS**, Whitewater Student Government recognizes the responsibility of University Health and Counseling Services to provide education and services in order to enhance the lifestyles and health of students, faculty, and staff; and,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Whitewater Student Government strongly urges University Health and Counseling Services to pursue increased education for students, faculty, and staff regarding the negative health effects associated with tobacco use; and,

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Whitewater Student Government will continue to hear, acknowledge, and consider proposals from the Chancellor's Tobacco Task Force; and,

**THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that Whitewater Student Government will continue to recognize and defend the rights of students, faculty, and staff to pursue legal lifestyle choices as they see fit.