

Resolution # 66-05

**The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA)  
The Pennsylvania State University**



**of the 66th Assembly**  
November 16, 2016

*Be it decided by the Assembly of Elected Delegates,*

**Involvement in University Smoke-Free Task Force  
GPSA's Role in the Ongoing Discussion of University Smoking Policy**

(Decided: [ Y / N / A ])

1 **Nature of the Situation:**

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3 The issue of whether or not University Park should become a tobacco-free or smoke-free campus  
4 has been discussed thoroughly by several groups on campus. The current smoking policies at  
5 University Park are outlined in Penn State Policy AD32, which reads:

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7 *“Smoking of any material is prohibited in all University facilities, at all locations, including*  
8 *University-owned vehicles. It also is prohibited in any outside area adjacent to a facility whose*  
9 *configuration and/or other physical circumstances allow smoke either to enter and affect the*  
10 *internal environment or to unduly affect the environment of those entering or exiting the*  
11 *facility.”*

12  
13 The University Park Undergraduate Association (UPUA) published a report earlier this year  
14 analyzing the current smoking policies at Penn State. The report summarizes the smoking  
15 policies of peer universities in the Big Ten. Currently, 9 of the 14 Big Ten universities are either  
16 smoke-free or tobacco-free. Two other Penn State campuses (Hershey and Lehigh Valley) are  
17 also tobacco-free. The report presents the results of a survey of campus smoking behaviors  
18 which was distributed to 5,000 undergraduate students living on campus. The report presented 16  
19 recommendations to the Penn State administration, including the ban of smoking on all  
20 University Park facilities, buildings, grounds, and athletic properties.

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1 In October 2016, the Faculty Senate endorsed “the spirit” of the UPUA Smoke-Free Proposal  
2 and recommended the creation of a Task Force to investigate the merits and implementation  
3 issues of a Smoke-Free policy.  
4

5 **Recommended Course of Action:**  
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7 Graduate and professional students are two of the many unique stakeholders in the campus  
8 smoking policy decision. It is important that graduate and professional students’ voices are heard  
9 by the Penn State administration as it continues to evaluate the campus smoking policy.  
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11 The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) recommends that the University  
12 take the following steps to include graduate students in the discussion of campus smoking policy:  
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- 14 1. As recommended by the Faculty Senate, create a University-wide Task Force to explore  
15 the merits and implementation issues of Smoke-Free policy at Penn State.
- 16 2. Include one or more graduate students on the Task Force. One of the graduate students  
17 serving on the task force will serve as a liaison and report the Task Force’s discussions to  
18 the GPSA Assembly.
- 19 3. Conduct a thorough survey of the graduate and professional student population to  
20 determine their preferences for Penn State’s smoking policy and how any proposed  
21 policy changes will affect these students.

Respectfully submitted,

**Matthew Krott**

Delegate, College of Engineering

**Kevin Reuning**

Chair, Advocacy Committee

Delegate, College of the Liberal Arts

**Lillian Z. Hill**

Speaker of the GPSA Assembly

Delegate, Inter-College Degree Programs

President \_\_\_\_\_

Affirm

Veto

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The Graduate and Professional Student Association