



## SHARED GOVERNANCE COUNCIL (SGC) RECOMMENDATION FORM

Please submit to: [President@stcc.edu](mailto:President@stcc.edu)

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To be completed by the body bringing forward the recommendation. See Appendix A for additional guidance.

**I: Proposed Recommendation:**

**Tobacco-Free Campus**

**Name of Entity Making Recommendation:** **AUC Physical Campus and Budget Committee**

a. Nature of the Recommendation:

- Academic
- Student Success/Systems of Operation
- Budget/Fiscal
- Health-Safety-Security (Students, Employees, Campus)
- Technology/Innovation
- Facilities
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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b. Describe current policy/ protocol/ challenge:

While smoking is prohibited in all buildings, there is no current policy/protocol in place for a tobacco-free campus.

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c. Describe recommended policy/protocol change, and the benefit/impact:

Policy/Protocol: "The use of tobacco products (as defined by the Food and Drug Administration) is prohibited anywhere on the Springfield Technical Community College Campus. This policy includes chewing tobacco, electronic and vapor cigarettes, and applies to students, staff, faculty, contractors, and visitors."

- d. Describe background and rationale for how the recommendation was generated (involvement of staff-faculty-students-governance bodies), include any supporting data, reports, survey results, research, et al.:

### **Fall 2020**

The Smoke Free Campus Work Group was developed in Fall 2020 to research if and how STCC could develop a plan for a smoke-free campus. Members of the committee represented constituencies from across campus. The Work Group researched and discussed feasibility, policy, rationale, legality, cessation sources, signage, and grant opportunities.

### **Spring 2021**

On May 25, 2021, a Tobacco Use on Campus Survey was sent out to all students registered for spring 2021 and fall 2021, STCC's Campus Community distribution list, and entities that operate and/or share campus grounds with the college. The roll up across all demographics was 65% in favor and 35% not in favor.

### **Fall 2023**

The AUC Physical Campus and Budget Committee decided to investigate the possibility of passing a tobacco-free campus policy. In our discussions, we discussed the pros:

- Reduce use of tobacco use among faculty, staff, and visitors to the college
- Eliminate second hand smoke
- Create an opportunity to educate students about tobacco
- Prepare students for smoke and tobacco free workplaces
- Reduce litter (Worldwide, there are 4.5 trillion cigarette butts littered each year, [WHO](#))

The AUC Physical Campus and Budget Committee discussed possible issues that might arise. Our committee does not currently have solutions to these issues:

- Enforcement of the policy
- How to address shared property with the Springfield Armory National Historic Site
- How to roll out the policy
- Whether or not to create smoking areas on campus

We decided to bring the question before the body in the next AUC General Assembly.

### **AUC General Assembly on September 20, 2023**

The question, "Do you think the AUC Budget & Facilities Committee should move forward a proposal to become a Smoke Free campus" was asked via Zoom poll. The results were:

- 79% Yes
- 15% No



6% Abstain

While the populations polled in 2021 and 2023 are slightly different, the numbers show a significant rise in our community's desire to pass a tobacco-free campus policy.

The AUC Physical Campus and Budget Committee and the Smoke Free Campus Work Group found, compiled or developed a few resources that may be helpful if we move forward with this initiative:

- [Truth Initiative: Inspiring Lives Free from Smoking, Vaping & Nicotine](#)
- [STCC Draft Policy developed by the Smoke Free Campus Workgroup, 2020-21](#)
- [Tobacco Use on Campus Survey Summary from Spring 2021](#)
- [Policies from other Massachusetts community colleges](#)
- [Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program](#)
- [American Lung Association – Want to Quit?](#)
- [Be Tobacco Free](#)

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**Date submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **II: Recommendation Review**

Shared Governance Council Review and Consideration (Date):

Generated Consensus (minutes made available):

Next Steps (as needed):

## **III: Presidential Action**

Decision on the Recommendation:



Rationale/Summary:

Date of Presentation to STCC Trustees:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)



## **APPENDIX A**

***“Formally endorsed by Trustees, the Shared Governance Council (SGC) will serve as a high level advisory body to the STCC President on the recommendations developed by the College community that are then submitted to the Board of Trustees. The body will operate on a consensus mode rather than voting. The President will present to the Board of Trustees recommendations via consensus by the SGC with his/hers/their view as to what action the Trustees should take.”***

Additional Detail/ ACCT Consultant Report (June 2022):

*“Proposals may come to the SGC from any constituent group via written request.”*

*“The SGC considers fiscal, union, student, administrative impact of the proposal.”*

*“The President decides to accept, modify or reject the proposal if it is an administrative procedural matter; the President decides to recommend to the Board of Trustees any policy recommendation accompanying it with a statement of support or concern.”*

This form is to be used for generating recommendations for shared governance consideration that potentially lead to changes in policy and/or practice-protocols. For an overview of topics to be considered by the STCC Shared Governance Council, please confer with your appropriate representative. The comprehensive consultant report prepared for the college (June 2022) is readily available, and a public-facing website is currently in development that will ensure information, and the availability of agendas, minutes, and decision/actions.