WHEREAS, first and second-hand exposure to tobacco smoke are linked with a multitude of cancers (most notably lung, esophageal, and liver), diseases of the cardiovascular and respiratory systems, and irritation of other chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, other tobacco products – defined as any product containing, made, or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means – have similar health concerns to those of tobacco smoke; and

WHEREAS, Student Health Services surveyed 2,388 students and 570 faculty and staff in 2015 on their tobacco product use; and

WHEREAS, the survey showed that 11% of survey respondents smoke cigarettes on at least a monthly basis, while another 14% of respondents reported using other tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, the same survey showed that 51% of respondents are exposed to secondhand smoke on at least a weekly basis; and

WHEREAS, 22% of the same survey respondents indicated that secondhand smoke irritated their allergies, asthma, bronchitis or other chronic health condition; and

WHEREAS, 80% of respondents reported to be knowledgeable of current campus smoking policy (i.e. designated smoking areas); and

WHEREAS, current designated smoking areas are often unutilized by tobacco users, or are located in improper places such as near building entrances or building air intakes; and

WHEREAS, the Chancellor holds ultimate jurisdiction over campus tobacco policy; and

WHEREAS, the student body still holds a great deal of influence over this issue; and
WHEREAS, a bill in the 59th session to hold a referendum on campus tobacco policy passed the
Student Senate, but was not approved by the Chancellor; and
WHEREAS, the Chancellor expressed desire for specific policy language to come from students
as the reason for his opposition to the referendum.
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that a Special Committee on Tobacco Policy Redevelopment be
created to review current campus tobacco policy, and to recommend updates and changes to said
policy to the Chancellor, following Student Senate approval of said policy changes; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Special Committee take into account student health,
current federal, state, UW System, and local policies regarding tobacco usage, campus visitors,
religious practices and cultural activities, tobacco addiction treatment, and all other possible
implications of a revised policy in its recommendation; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, RESOLVED that this Special Committee consist of twelve members:
The Campus Affairs Director, the Student Office of Sustainability Director, two Off-Campus Senators,
two On-Campus Senators, one student employee at the Student Wellness Advocacy Team, one
member of Student National Environmental Health Association, one student employee of Student
Health Services, one Committee Chair, and three students not currently involved with student
government – who shall be elected from among the Committee members and be responsible for
chairing all meetings; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of this Special Committee be in good academic
standing during the entirety of their term on the Committee; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Special Committee present its policy recommendations to
Student Senate in the form of a resolution before the second week of March; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, should Student Senate reject the original policy
recommendations of the Special Committee, the Committee provide revised recommendations before
the first week of April in the form of a resolution; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, should Student Senate reject subsequent policy
recommendations of the Special Committee, the Committee reconvene for another two weeks to
revise its policy recommendations; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Special Committee expire upon Student Senate approval of
its campus tobacco policy recommendations; and
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that upon passage, President Sukhu transmit a copy of this bill to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; Dr. Patricia Kleine, Provost/Vice Chancellor; Dr. Beth Hellwig, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs; Dr. Joseph Abhold, Dean of Students; Mitch Freymiller, Chair, University Senate; Kristen Hendrickson, Budget and Resource Planning; Student Health Services, Student Wellness Advocacy Team, Facilities Planning and Management, Physical Plan Planning Committee.