

# ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY



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March 4, 1994

To Members of the University Community:

There is little doubt that smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke are serious health risks. Smoking affects our health, our productivity, and our personal finances through increased medical insurance costs.

At the same time, the decision to smoke is a personal choice. In the United States, a very high value is placed on individual freedoms. On university campuses, the value of individual rights is historically even greater.

According to medical evidence, smoking is both psychologically and physiologically addictive. Breaking the smoking addiction has been equated with breaking a heroin addiction - some break the addiction easily, for others it is extremely difficult.

In this context, the University is attempting to develop a comprehensive smoking policy. We wish to develop a policy that is reflective of these concerns. The attached draft policy is a beginning point for our discussions. I encourage you to discuss this draft with colleagues and make your opinions known to Dr. J.W. Mason, assistant vice president for administration, in the Office of Human Resources. It will be particularly helpful if you submit suggested wording changes in writing prior to March 25, 1994.

Thank you for your participation in this effort.

Cordially,

John N. Mangieri  
President

Draft 2/7/94

## Smoking Policy

Effective immediately,

. . . smoking is prohibited in all classrooms, administrative offices, and rest rooms.

Effective July 1, 1994,

. . . smoking is prohibited in all shared faculty offices and break/vending areas.

Effective January 1, 1995,

. . . smoking is prohibited in all university buildings and vehicles.

. . . smoking is permitted only in designated areas outside buildings. Such areas shall be located not closer than 20 feet to any door or entrance.

. . . smoking is permitted in Indian Stadium only in designated areas on the concourse.

. . . smoking is permitted in private residence hall rooms, or shared rooms where both occupants smoke.

. . . smoking is permitted in residences in Indian Village and Faculty Housing.

The Office of Human Resources will offer a series of smoking cessation programs during the coming months.

These are "minimum" regulations. Individual buildings may adopt greater restrictions on smoking.