



University of Iowa News Release

Aug. 10, 2006

Smoking Temporarily Banned Outside Of UI Building Entrances and Exits

A temporary smoking ban, approved by University of Iowa Interim President Gary Fethke, eliminates smoking within 25 feet of all occupied UI building entrances and exits, and parking facility stair towers, elevators, lobbies and doors that are not already covered by the UI Hospitals and Clinics smoke-free policy. The ban will go into effect on Aug. 14. Kinnick Stadium is the only building excluded from the ban. With few exceptions, smoking is not allowed inside any UI building.

Signs will be posted to alert people to the temporary policy and receptacles will be removed within the 25-foot zone after Aug. 14. This fall, the UI Smoking Policy Review Committee will present final recommendations for a permanent policy that will be subject to an approval process.

"The university intends to reduce smoking on campus with a temporary ban until a permanent policy can be put into place. We're making efforts to improve health and to protect people from second-hand smoke, which has been identified by the U.S. Surgeon General as a serious health threat," said Fethke.

Faculty, staff and students will be notified of the ban through a campus-wide e-mail. UI governance leaders and union leadership also have been contacted about the new policy.

Quitline Iowa, a free resource for people who want to quit using tobacco products, is available to the public by calling 866-822-6879. The UI offers free assistance to faculty, staff and students. Students should contact Health Iowa at 319-335-8370. Faculty and staff can receive help at the University Employee Health Clinic, 319-356-3631.

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OTHER INFORMATION: For more information, please visit the following Web sites.

- Quitline Iowa (for the public) <http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/itrc/quitline/default.htm>

- Health Iowa (for UI students) <http://www.uiowa.edu/~shs/>

- University Employee Health Clinic (for UI faculty and staff)
<http://www.uihealthcare.com/depts/employeehealthclinic/index.html>

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