December 5, 2011

TO: FACULTY SENATE, KALĀUALANI, STAFF COUNCIL, & STUDENT CONGRESS

FROM: LEON RICHARDS

RE: CHANCELLOR’S TOBACCO PRODUCTS POLICY TASK FORCE

Aloha:

On December 1, 2011, the Tobacco Products Policy Task Force voted to recommend the following:

- the inner college campus (defined by the walkway perimeter of the campus) shall be a non-smoking zone.

- Task Force members will work with Gordon Man to identify places in the major student parking lots (i.e., Lots A, B, C, D, & E) that will be designated as smoking areas, be visibly marked as smoking areas, and be provided with bench(es) or table(s) and trash receptacle(s).

Please send your input and comments concerning the Task Force recommendations to my office by December 12, 2011.

After discussing the UH policy and the Hawai‘i State Law, and before deciding on any recommendations, the Task Force held an open forum, co-sponsored and organized by the ASKCC and BOSA, on November 17, 2011 at the ‘Iliahi amphitheater. The forum was advertised to all faculty, staff, and students; they were asked to either attend and testify on the proposal to make Kapi‘olani CC a non-smoking campus, send testimony via email, or both. On the same day, Service Learning sponsored the Great American Smokeout Day on campus and provided a questionnaire (non-scientific), which asked about establishing a non-smoking campus. The results of these two activities are listed below.

The purpose of the ASKCC/BOSA/TPP TF Open Forum was to have a discussion on the proposal that Kapi‘olani CC be made a non-smoking campus. Of the 50 people who testified, either at the forum and/or through written submitted testimony via email,
74% (n=37) said YES, while 26% (n=13) said NO to having a "smoke-free campus." Also, of the 50 respondents, 10% (n=5) cited "smoke-free campus due to their health," while 26% (n=13) favored "designated zones and clear enforcement of zone policy."

The Great American Smokeout Questionnaire had 113 respondents. To the question do you agree with the proposal that Kapiolani CC be a "smoke-free campus," 88% (n=100) said YES, while 12% (n=12) said NO. Of those who voted in this questionnaire 31% (n=41) answered YES to the question "Are you or have you ever been a smoker?" while 64% (n=72) answered NO.

The Tobacco Products Policy Task Force is comprised of members from Student Congress, The Board of Student Activities, Faculty Senate, and Staff Council, as well at-large faculty and students, Mona Lee, Gordan Man, the VP for Administrative Services, and my Executive Assistant. I asked the Task Force to review the UH Tobacco Products Policy with the goal of monitoring implementation of the Policy and appropriately designating smoking sites on or nearby the campus, if it so wished. The TF recognized early that State Law and UH System Policy focus on protecting against second-hand smoke in the vicinity of buildings and do not address the realities of a college campus in which faculty, staff, and students are constantly moving from one building to another. Thus, the TF pursued gathering information from campus members, from literature on the effects of second hand smoking on non-smokers, and from other college campuses that have dealt with protecting its members from second hand smoke.

The Task force will work with the college's various organizations and Administrative Services to promote compliance for a non-smoking campus (except in designated areas); establish a protocol for complaints and complaint resolution; establish means and a timeline for education of students, faculty, and staff concerning smoking on campus; establish and implement a timeline/plan for training of security personnel in relation to "enforcing" the UH Policy; design, create, and post NO SMOKING signs throughout the campus (as appropriate) that do not detract from the visual aesthetic of the campus; and finally, determine consequences of violation of the policy for students, faculty, and staff according to State and City and County law (if any).

Please note that our role, according to the UH Policy E10.102, is to protect everyone from a potential health hazard and to create an environment that promotes the reduction or cessation of smoking. Let us move on this issue immediately.

Finally, allow me to express my thanks and appreciation to the Task Force and to officially seek your input and comments on the recommendations of the Task Force. Please send your comments concerning the Task Force recommendations, i.e., establishing an inner campus non-smoking zone and designating smoking areas in parking lots A, B, C, D, & E, to my office by December 12, 2011.