

# Highlights of the 2006 MSCTC-Moorhead Secondhand Smoke Study of Students and Faculty/Staff, February 2007

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## Study Design

- Two web surveys were conducted in October and November 2006, at the Moorhead campus of Minnesota State Community and Technical College (MSCTC-Moorhead) using a complete census of students and of faculty/staff. A total of 265 students participated and a total of 92 faculty/staff participated. The complete report and briefing points are available at [www.ndsu.edu/sdc/publications.htm](http://www.ndsu.edu/sdc/publications.htm).

## Key Findings

### *Opinions and Perceptions of Tobacco and Secondhand Smoke Issues*

	<u>Students</u>	<u>Faculty/ staff</u>
	<i>Where 1 is "strongly disagree" and 5 is "strongly agree"</i>	
▪ Smoking and secondhand smoke are important health issues.		
○ Secondhand smoke is a health issue.	Mean=4.35	Mean=4.34
○ Smoking causes physical effects, such as reduced endurance.	Mean=4.44	Mean=4.47
○ Smoking can lead to long-term physical illnesses.	Mean=4.66	Mean=4.54
▪ Tobacco use should be regulated.		
○ Responsibility of campus administration to protect campus.	Mean=3.47	Mean=4.01
○ Litter caused by smoking detracts from campus appearance.	Mean=3.51	Mean=4.47
	<u>Students</u>	<u>Faculty/ staff</u>
▪ 88% of students and 84% of faculty/staff are regularly exposed to secondhand smoke.		
○ Bars/cocktail lounges	56%	54%
○ The homes of friends/family members	45%	24%
○ Entrances into campus buildings	43%	55%
○ Entrances into buildings off campus	36%	33%
○ On their way to classes/work on campus	29%	38%

### *Preferences/Opinions Regarding Campus Smoking Policies*

- 55% of students and 72% of faculty/staff at MSCTC-Moorhead know the existing campus smoking policy.
- The vast majority of students and faculty/staff say the smoking policy is not enforced well outdoors.
- 35% of students and 56% of faculty/staff are *very likely* to support a smoke-free campus policy.
- Only 13% of students and 5% of faculty/staff say they would be less likely to attend or work at MSCTC-Moorhead if a smoke-free campus policy was implemented.

### *Campus Community's Experiences with Tobacco and Secondhand Smoke*

- 43% of students and 24% of faculty/staff are tobacco users; 26% of students and 12% of faculty/staff are "regular users" of tobacco.
- The vast majority of smokers start smoking before finishing high school.
- The greatest influence on smokers to start smoking is peers.
- Only 11% of students and 18% of faculty/staff are not interested in quitting smoking.
- Among smokers, 38% of students and 29% of faculty/staff have tried to quit smoking within the last 12 months. And, the vast majority of those trying to quit have had multiple attempts.