CUNY (City University of New York)

To the Members of the Hunter College Community:

On January 24, 2011, the CUNY Board of Trustees approved a greatly enhanced and expanded tobacco policy. The new policy, which will prohibit smoking and the use of tobacco on all grounds, facilities, and vehicles under CUNY’s jurisdiction, makes CUNY the largest smoke-free public university system in the United States. Previous prohibitions against tobacco-related advertising and/or tobacco-sponsored events within CUNY will remain in effect.

At the request of Chancellor Matthew Goldstein, Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alexandra W. Logue convened a CUNY Tobacco Policy Advisory Committee to consider if and how the existing policy might be expanded to better protect the health of CUNY students, faculty, and staff. After extensive research, deliberations, and solicitation of community views, the Committee recommended that CUNY’s policy be expanded. Hunter’s policy now reads as follows:

“Beginning in Fall 2012, smoking and tobacco use, including the use of snus and electronic cigarettes, are strictly prohibited in all areas, including indoor, outdoor, and vehicles, that are owned, leased, operated, or maintained by Hunter College. There is no sale of cigarettes, cigars, chewing, or pipe tobacco at any facility, location, or vending machine owned, leased, operated, or maintained by Hunter College or its contractors.”

Both Hunter College and CUNY respect an individual’s right to use tobacco. However, Hunter and CUNY request that smokers and tobacco users refrain from using tobacco products on campus property. Those wishing to use tobacco products must do so off College grounds, at a distance sufficient so as not to interfere with access to or use of College buildings or other grounds.

Over the next several months, expect to see increased tobacco-related signage around Hunter’s campuses, and the removal of visual smoking cues from public outdoor areas.

Hunter and CUNY are committed to providing cessation assistance. Students seeking help quitting smoking can contact the Office of Wellness Services in Room 307 North at 212-772-4800.

Faculty and staff in need of assistance can contact Human Resources at 212-650-4451, or the CUNY Work/Life program at 1-800-833-8707.

Thank you for helping create a healthier Hunter College.

Sincerely,
Len Zinnanti
Acting Chief Operating Officer