

WPI

Smoking at WPI

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Introduction

- Students smoke at WPI throughout the campus
- Second hand smoke allows chemicals to enter the body
- 7000 chemical compounds in second hand smoke
 - 250 are harmful
 - 60 are known to cause cancer
- The chemicals also cause asthma, lung infections, and heart disease
- Smoking portrays a negative image of WPI
- We propose to establish designated smoking areas

Need

To reduce effects of second hand smoke and negative public image on the WPI campus

Methods/Approach

Research

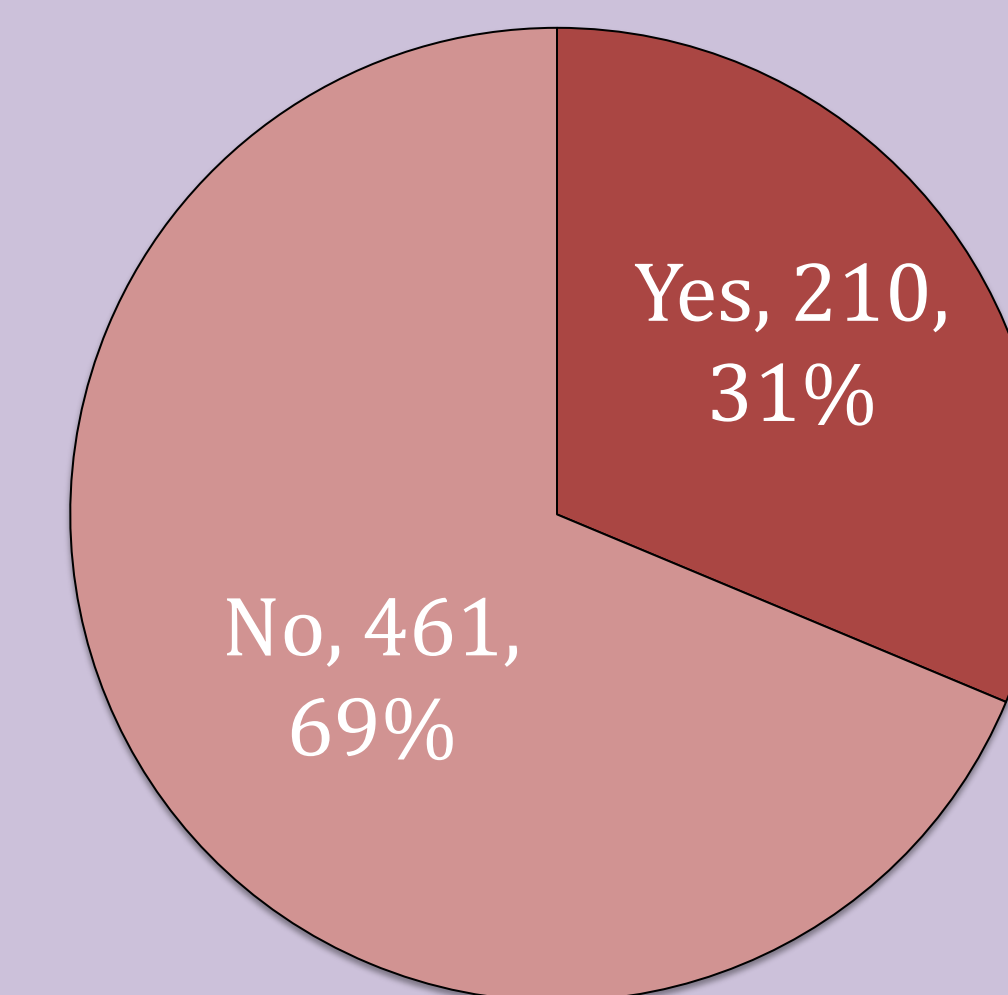
- Investigate if it is a health risk
- Find what current policy is
- Interview expert, Joseph DiFranza, M.D.

Survey

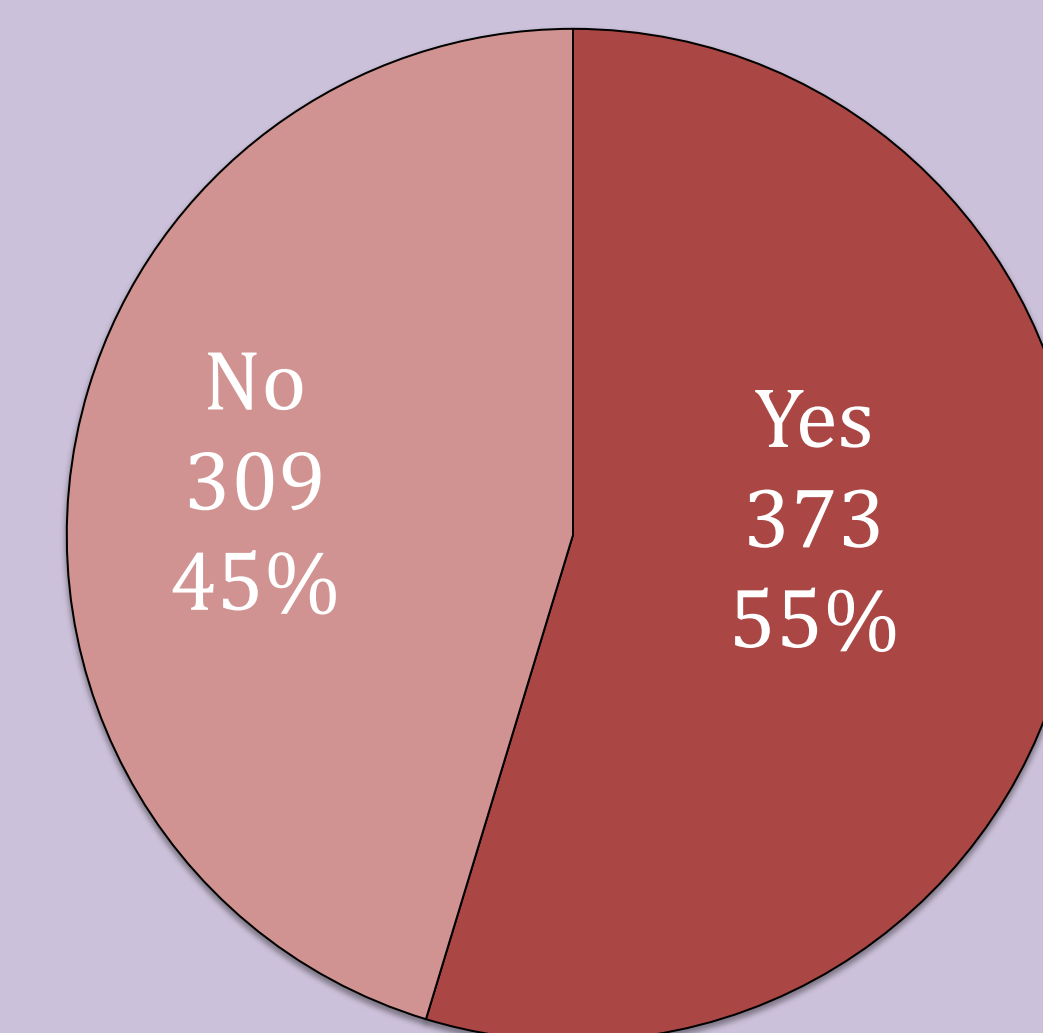
- Determine public opinion
- Establish the most publicly acceptable method of reducing second hand smoke

Survey Results of 679 Students

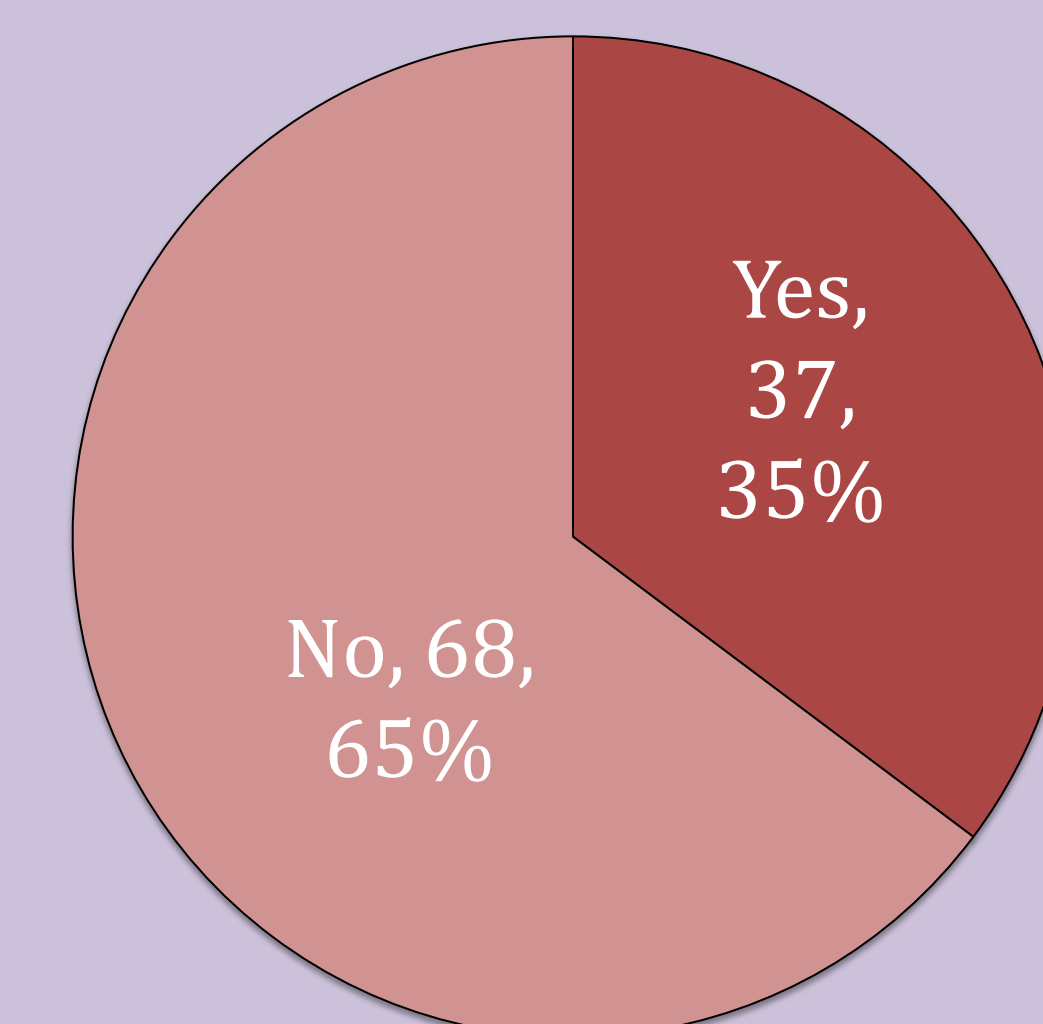
Do you ever smell smoke in your residence hall?



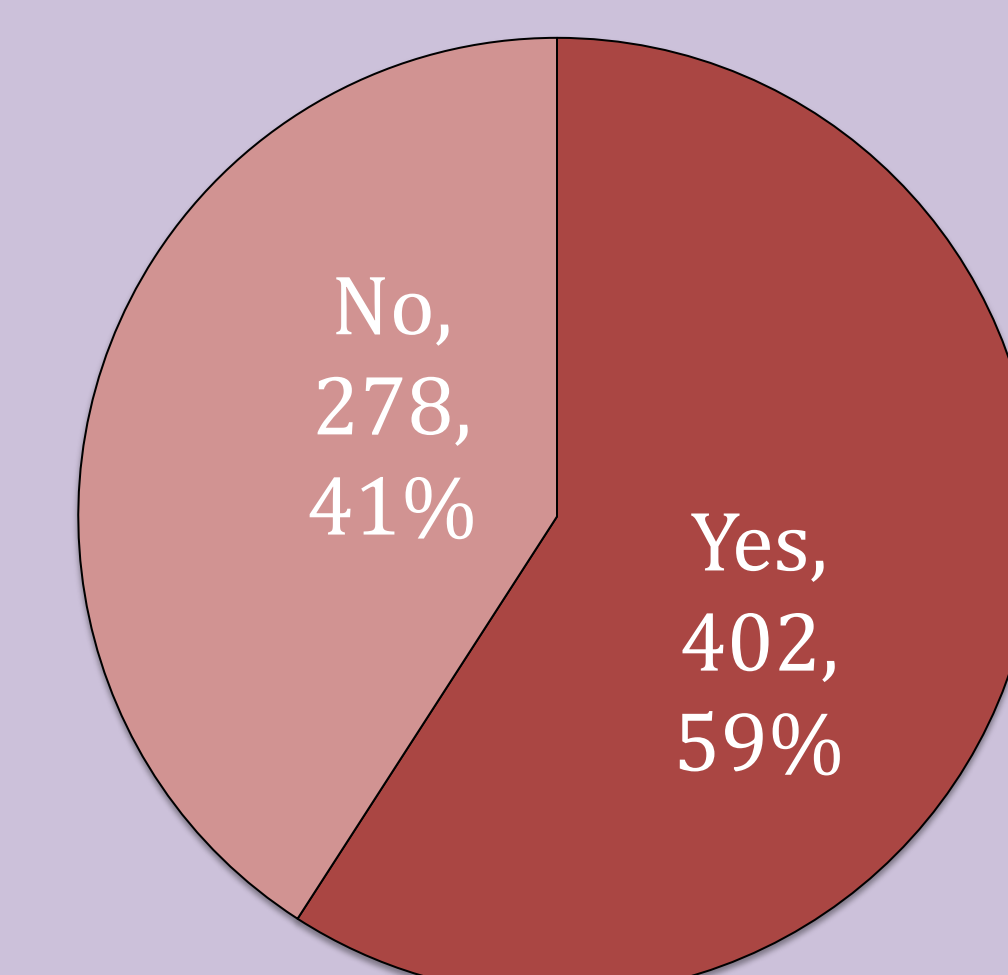
Does it bother you to see someone who is smoking on campus?



If you are a smoker, would you be willing to walk 50 feet from a building or the quad to smoke?



Do you make a conscious effort to avoid smokers on campus?



Conclusion

- WPI smoking policy has not substantially changed since 1994
- Current policy prohibits smoking in places in which the smoke can enter a building
- Over 200 students can smell smoke in their residence hall
- Hookah is
 - More dangerous than smoking a pack of cigarettes.
 - Not mentioned in current policy
- Current policy is not being followed
- With our goal in mind, Dr. DiFranza helped us make our plan more realistic

Recommendations

- Most effective starting point would be to implement 20 foot smoke free radius around buildings
- Ban smoking on the Quad, including hookah

References

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