Feedback Received to the Tobacco-Free Website in September 2011  
(unedited comments)

Received September 2, 2011

1. What if I am not a smoker, but I believe Emory's requirement that I sign the affidavit to be a violation of my civil liberties and/or an excessive intrusion into my private life? Is there some way I can register that this is the reason I am not signing the affidavit?

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1. Even though I am an adamant non smoker, I strongly oppose the new health insurance policies. What will be next--a few pounds overweight? slightly elevated blood sugar? not getting 8 hours of sleep a night? (Will you ask Emory physicians--or other physicians--to turn in patients who smoke if they suspect that the insurance forms were not filled in correctly....)
   Moreover, anyone with any public health knowledge knows that there are class dimensions to smoking patterns. Thus, Emory is (yet again) attacking those who earn less.
   I am all for encouraging those at Emory to lose weight, have healthier lives, find a good work-life balance. But a $600/yr surcharge is only going to lead smokers to lie on the form, and to all sorts of ($$) efforts by Emory to find out if someone has lied on the form. Bad policy.
2. Since we are in the path of wellness and health, Emory's next step should be to ban the proliferation of administrators. They waste valuable financial resources in ridiculous decisions and unnecessary initiatives. The ratio of administrator per student is unhealthy for the University, and their salaries are often as harmful to our mission as cigarettes are to smokers' lives.