

# Policy Against Accepting Tobacco Money for Research

An ad hoc committee was formed which facilitated open interchanges of views and ideas from across the College community (faculty, students, staff), concluding with an anonymous vote that resulted in the current policy not to accept funding from the Tobacco Industry.

Tobacco is the only manufactured product that if used as intended, causes harmful health effects and has no redeeming benefits to individuals or our society. Overwhelming scientific evidence has accumulated that shows tobacco use to be the single greatest cause of preventable disease, disability and death in the United States.

Recent evidence indicates that research sponsored by the tobacco industry is often unduly influenced by the choice of projects selected for support and the interpretation of results as part of a deliberate strategy to mislead the public about the adverse health effects of tobacco use. Given the long history of consistent deception by the tobacco industry, it has positioned itself against the public health. It is important for a college of public health to promote health through quality research without supporting or being influenced by the tobacco industry. Any association between the UA Zuckerman College of Public Health and the tobacco industry taints the reputation of our College.

The UA Zuckerman College of Public Health therefore resolves not to accept funding of any kind from organizations known to be directly funded by the tobacco industry. This prohibition does not apply to funding from the Master Settlement Agreement, nor to programs funded by tobacco excise taxes provided by consumers, not the tobacco industry.

By taking this stance, the UA Zuckerman College of Public Health is limiting the ability of some faculty to have access to a significant funding source. While research that could significantly improve public health may not be funded, it is the position of the College that the threat to public health posed by the tobacco industry outweighs the benefits of accepting these funds.

The UA Zuckerman College of Public Health cannot prohibit faculty from seeking tobacco-related funding outside of the College, serving as consultants, or serving on advisory boards related to the tobacco industry. However, it strongly discourages such activities, and requires that engaging in such activities be publicly disclosed. While in theory one can enter such relationships in one's capacity as a private individual, in fact the tobacco industry profits whenever it associates with scientists who are affiliated with respected academic programs. The best predictor of the future is often the recent past, suggesting that the

tobacco industry will use any such cachet against the public health and for their own profit.

List of tobacco companies and affiliates as they appear in the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute (FAMRI) "Tobacco Disclosure Statement".

American Tobacco  
Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp.  
The Council for Tobacco Research USA, Inc.  
Hill and Knowhron, Inc.  
Liggett & Myers, Inc.  
Loews Corporation  
Philip Morris  
RJ Reynolds  
Smokeless Tobacco Council  
Star Scientific, Inc.  
The Tobacco Institute, Inc.  
Universal Leaf Tobacco Co.  
British American Tobacco Company, Ltd.  
Center for Indoor Air Research  
Dimon Incorporated  
Kraft  
Liggett & Brooke Group  
Lorillard Tobacco Co., Inc.  
Researchamerican Tobacco Corp.  
RJR Nabisco, Inc.  
Standard Commercial  
The Tobacco Industry Research Committee  
United States Tobacco Company  
Vector Group

Please note that on the disclosure form the PI and Grants Administrator were to list each school within the institution that received funding from any of the listed organizations, the name of the funding agency and the date and duration of the funding. The PI was also asked to list specifically his or her own funding received from any of the listed organizations.