

## **Author's response to reviews**

**Title:** College Campus Smoking Policies and Programs and Students' Smoking Behaviors

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Editors  
*BMC Public Health*

Dear Editors:

Please find electronically attached a revised copy of our manuscript, "College Campus Smoking Policies and Programs and Students' Smoking Behaviors."

We have addressed all of the reviewer's comments on the following page.

Thank you.

Tyrone F. Borders, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor

#### Major compulsory revisions:

All major changes have been made in bold font. The sampling frame and methodology are described in more detail in the last paragraph, page 3 to the first paragraph, page 4. We were not able to obtain comparative demographic data for all of the participating colleges.

More details about the regression modeling have been added in the last paragraph, page 5. We reformatted Table 1 to include all descriptive findings. Table 2 now shows the findings from the univariate and multivariate analyses. We only report the unadjusted odds ratios for the college-level policies and programs as the student-level variables were included as potential confounders. Adjusted odds ratios are reported for all independent variables.

We did not obtain detailed information about types of preventive education and programs offered at each school. This is noted as a limitation in first paragraph, page 9. Other limitations have been noted in the last paragraph, page 8.

Because we were concerned with the occurrence of smoking over a defined time period, as opposed to the quantity of cigarette consumption, we defined current smoking as having smoked at least one cigarette in the past 30 days. This is the standard method of categorizing persons as current vs. non-current smokers [6, 12-14], as is noted in paragraph 3, page 4. Separating regular and occasional smokers is difficult, as there are no standards for what constitutes occasional. For example, is occasional defined as 10 cigarettes on just one day per month or 1 cigarette every day of the month?

Again, we have noted in the discussion section that a limitation of the study is that we did not obtain detail information about the preventive education and smoking cessation programs offered at each college.

#### Minor revisions:

We added 95% CIs corresponding to ORs in Table 2.

We reduced the number of decimal places for percentages in Table 1.

We deleted the information about public vs. private universities in Table 1 to avoid confusion.