



**CENTRAL**  
**21-Sep-2011**  
 Page: 31  
 General News  
 By: Shireen Khalil  
 Market: Sydney  
 Circulation: 38691  
 Type: Suburban  
 Size: 267.56 sq.cms  
 Frequency: --W----

# SMOKE RISES ON DEBATE

**SHIREEN KHALIL**

SYDNEY University is the latest in a growing number of universities to cut smoking on its campuses.

It recently released a draft "smoke-free environments policy" to extend existing bans to 10m from buildings, prohibit smoking in outdoor and drinking areas and to phase out the sale of cigarettes on campus.

Campuses include Camperdown/Darlington and Rozelle.

Health Science student Ali Saeed said it's a student's right to smoke anywhere outdoors.

"Even though I'm a health student and understand the health problems associated with smoking I can make

my own choices," Mr Saeed said.

"Yes, it's an enclosed environment but they shouldn't ban it and ban the selling of cigarettes on the campus - it's our choice."

A university spokesman said the policy had generated a lot of debate among students.

"It's been widely discussed on campus which is good," he said.

"A majority of staff appear to be in favour of a tighter policy."

The spokesman said it's part of the overall commitment to having a healthy and safe campus.

"We're looking at what the university has to say about it, it's simply a way of gauging (its) opinion about

whether or not we should have a tighter policy."



Do you think the ban is a good idea? Comment on this story at [centralmag.com.au](http://centralmag.com.au)

## WHAT THE UNI WANTS

- \* No smoking 10m from buildings
- \* No smoking in outdoor and drinking areas; and
- \* Phase out cigarette sale on campus



### AT OTHER UNIS

- Macquarie plans to become smoke-free by 2015, and has limited smoking to nine designated areas
- UTS, UNSW and UWS have standard bans on smoking in buildings and near entrances
- The University of Adelaide brought in a total ban on July 1
- Curtin University in WA will become smoke-free from January 1, 2012