USE OF SPACE HEATERS ON CAMPUS

As the temperature begin to drop outside, let’s talk about how we heat our offices and residences on campus. Some of our buildings are older and are harder to keep warm so many faculty and staff rely on space heaters for extra warmth.

If you are resident on campus, you SHALL NOT possess a space heater in your dormitory, apartment or suite. If your room is too cold, tell your Resident Advisor and they will complete a work order for Campus Life to adjust the dampers or make changes to the temperature.

If you are a graduate student, faculty member or staff member that works on campus, you may have a space heater in your office as long as the following conditions are met:

- You have requested a heat study from Building Maintenance and Operations and they have deemed that nothing can be done to adjust the room temperature.
- The portable electric heater shall be listed and approved by Underwriter’s Laboratories, Inc. (UL).
- Portable electric heaters should be the fail-safe type, which are equipped with an automatic tip-over, shut off switch, valve or internal component.
- Portable electric heaters should be placed at least three feet (one meter) away from all combustibles, including paper, curtains, furniture, clothing, bedding, books or anything else that may burn. Please pay particular attention to clearances as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Never leave your electric heater running when you leave the room or area when you go to sleep.
- Ensure everyone is aware of the high fire hazard associated with a drying clothes or placing combustibles over heaters.
- Wherever possible, plug your electric heater directly into a wall outlet instead of a surge protector. Never use an extension cord.
- If a wall outlet is not available, utilizing a strip plug that is equipped with a circuit breaker switch is the safest alternative.
- Do not extend the electric cord of the heater through wall openings, under doors, or under floor coverings. Arrange the cord away from traffic areas where it will not be tripped over or damaged.
- Do not operate the electric heater with a damaged cord or plug, after the heater has malfunctioned, or after the heater has been dropped or damaged in any matter.

NCSU Fire Marshal’s Office- 2610 Wolf Village Way, Raleigh, NC 27695- (919) 515-2568
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