

Imperial College Union
Smoke Free Campus Referendum
"Do you want a smoke free campus?"
A paper By the Representation and Welfare Board

Notes

1. The Union's Memorandum of Understanding with College states: "Whilst it is expected that trading activities shall be operated efficiently and profitably, profit motives should not be pursued to the detriment of the interests of the student customers."

Believes

1. The student body should be consulted on the issue of a smoke free campus.
2. Due to the controversial nature of this issue this should be done by referendum.
3. There are many arguments for and against the proposal that students should be made aware of during any such referendum, including:
 - a. It could be argued that the sale of alcohol is to the detriment of students but no such ban is likely to be proposed.
 - b. Smokers would probably congregate outside Union entrances and potentially annoy the neighbours.
 - c. Any ban may damage the commercial income from the bars although the takings in the bars have continued to increase through the July 2006 smoking ban in the Union Bars.
 - d. All Imperial College Medical campuses are currently smoke free.
 - e. Imperial College is a leading institute in healthcare research and it should be seen to lead the way in banning smoking from the campus.
 - f. Some areas of campus could be considered unpleasant to be in because of smoking, especially around the edge of the Queens Lawn, immediately outside the door of the RSM and under the awning in Beit Quad.
 - g. About 106,000 people in the UK die each year due to smoking and the temptation to smoke can be reduced by implementing a smoke free campus.

Resolves

To hold a referendum in the Summer Term "Do you want a smoke free campus?"