

## **No Smoking Policy in the South Kensington Union Building**

**Proposed by:** Alex Guite (Phys 4) & Dan Lehmann (*EEE4, OM Trading Committee*)

### **Council Notes:**

1. Smoking will be banned in all bars and clubs in England in the Summer of 2007.
2. That a partial non-smoking trial was in operation in DaVinci's since 1<sup>st</sup> April last year.
3. Trading & Retail Committee passed a motion for DaVinci's to be permanently non-smoking from 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2006, and for Db's to be non-smoking during lunchtime (11:30 – 14:30), Monday to Friday.
3. That Health Secretary Patricia Hewitt has stated that the ban on smoking in pubs and clubs in England, will "save thousands of people's lives".
4. 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."
5. That takings in DaVinci's, during the partial smoking ban have continued to increase this year at around 21-22% on the previous year.
6. During lunchtimes, Db's serves food during the working week.
7. That Trading Committee have asked council to consider a smoking ban in the Bars & Trading outlets in South Kensington.
8. A recent survey of a random selection of Imperial students established that:
  - a) Nine in ten students don't smoke
  - b) Almost 60% feel that the Union has a smokey atmosphere
  - c) Two thirds of surveyed students find smokey atmospheres off-putting
  - d) Whilst fewer than 10% said that they would be less likely to drink in the Union if a total ban was implemented, over 40% responded that they would be more likely to choose the Union.

### **Council Believes:**

1. That there is support for non-smoking social and recreational space in the bars and catering outlets at Imperial College.
2. The union should take a responsible stance on smoking in the social spaces under its control.
3. That the union should provide a decent and clean working environment for its entire staff, but should particularly recognise that the bar and catering staff affected by smoke are predominately student staff.
4. That the union should establish a clear policy on the proposal of a full smoking ban in all of the union building.

### **Council Resolves:**

1. From the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2006 to implement a permanent ban on smoking in any part of the Union building in South Kensington.
2. To mandate the DP (F&S) in conjunction with the authors of this paper, to publish this decision to the entire student population.