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News

Cigarette machines to go

by Andy Savory Courier Staff

At a meeting of the Health and Safety Committee on Monday October 28th chaired by Conchita Furstenwald, a motion was passed to send a recommendation to the Dean that the cigarette vending machines be removed from campus.



A review of the cigarette vending machines situation was instigated by Andy Savory, a courier staff member. Mr. Savory brought up several points against the vending machines: These were:

1.) low revenue to college from machines (4.1%)

2.) making change was a problem for the cafeterias.

3.) The removal of cigarette sales would possibly help the litter problem on campus and lower the fire hazard.

4.) the sale of cigarettes is not a service, rather a disservice to smokers and non-smokers alike. 5.) The vending machines are contrary to the spirit of the smoking policy at Cap. to the point of being hypocritical.

The motion was argued against by Chris LaRock the Student Society rep on the Health and Safety committee. Chris spoke well on behalf of the nearly 30% of students on campus who do smoke, saying that although the revenue received from the cigarette vending machines was small (\$ 934.00 last year) it went towards the student services emergency loan funds which need every penny. He felt that the change problem could be alleviated by installing

change machines or have the vending machines take loonies as well as quarters. Chris also said he was sure that the litter problem would exist as long as people did.

The motion was made by Rob Turner, Dean of student services, and was seconded by Ian Robertson. The motion was passed by a margin of 4 to 1 with abstentions.