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Interviews

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attorney's office to resolve the legality of the interviews.

"We are not conducting these interviews as requested," Alejandre said, pointing out that the EPD is not ignoring the investigation altogether. "If assistance is needed, we've always made every effort to cooperate."

Alejandre said the department is worried about the criteria used to create the list of interviewees.

"Each person on the list is essentially from a Middle Eastern country," she said, which raised red flags at EPD about possible forms of racial profiling, which could be deemed illegal under Oregon statutes. Since receiving the list, EPD has tried to learn the criteria behind the names, she said.

"We have the responsibility to ensure that all of our activities fall within the guidelines of Oregon State law," she said.

Alejandre said EPD is also worried about the context of some of the sample questions to ask the interviewees.

"If some of the questions are not worded correctly, they could provide the assumption of guilt," Alejandre said. Neither Alejandre nor members of the U.S. attorney's office would provide the list of questions.

On Nov. 9, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft directed all United States attorneys to coordinate anti-terrorism efforts with state and local law enforcement agencies. U.S. Attorney Michael Mosman asked

EPD, as well as other local departments, to help interview people on their knowledge of terrorist elements in the United States. After the request, the Portland city attorney's office warned the Portland Police Department not to participate in the interviews because some questions used by investigators could be considered unconstitutional in Oregon.

Members of the U.S. attorney's office in Portland defended the practice set up by Ashcroft and the Justice Department, noting that the interviews will be conducted with or without help from local police.

"We have to get them done regardless," said U.S. First Assistant Attorney Barry Steldahl.

Civil liberties groups are concerned that the secrecy surrounding the investigations will strike fear in those interviewees, especially because they are resident aliens.

"These will be perceived as threatening visits, [they won't] be received as a request for help," said David Fidanque, executive director for ACLU of Oregon. He pointed out that while the interviews are voluntary, people who refuse the interview could find themselves under greater scrutiny than before.

"If people refuse to ask questions or limit their answers, they may find themselves under investigation because of their refusal," Fidanque said.

Emerald higher education editor John Liebhart can be reached at johnliebhart@dailyemerald.com.

Tobacco

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rector John Costello said. He said any profits earned from tobacco go into the total food service budget, which funds all of the food vendors in the EMU.

At the board meeting, members expressed concern that without tobacco profits, part of the student incidental fee would be pulled from student groups to make up for the losses.

The bookstore, however, would not experience as significant a financial loss if it discontinued tobacco sales, bookstore manager Jim Williams said. Of the bookstore's \$20 million in annual sales, cigarettes bring in approximately \$20,000 in gross profit, he said.

"For the bookstore, the decision is not a financial decision," he said. "It is an ethical decision."

Shelley Dutton, LCC's bookstore manager, said LCC's loss would be around \$1,400. By the end of the term, LCC will decide whether to continue offering tobacco products, she said. LCC students and faculty surveyed had mixed opinions on the issue, Dutton said.

PSU's tobacco profit is also significantly lower than the University's.

According to Smith Memorial Center accountant Kari Albright, last year's in-store profits were approximately \$12,000.

Julianne Ballard, a registered nurse at PSU, attributes the low sales to the campus's location, which gives students close access to many other tobacco vendors.

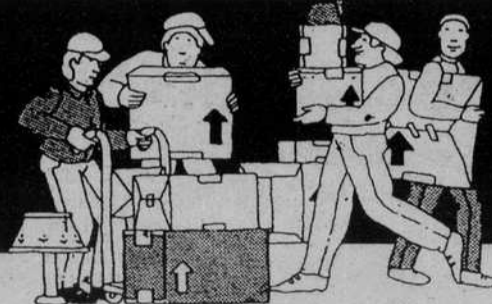
She said PSU is just beginning to look at the tobacco policies at other universities, with a particular focus on OSU.

"We are interested in ending tobacco sales as well, but we want to do what the students want," she said. Nationwide, the University of Rhode Island and the University of Arkansas have passed policies in the last year that included tobacco sale prohibition, said Julia Martin of Tobacco Free Lane County, a group that educates the public about tobacco's health risks.

At OSU, there has been little student protest to the ban, said Susan Poole, an OSU student health relations representative.

"We look at it as enhancing the health (of the community) by being tobacco-free," she said.

Emerald student activities reporter Diane Huber can be reached at dianehuber@dailyemerald.com.



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