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The University of Minnesota, Morris Campus Activities Council (CAC) presents its spring 2011 convocation, "Heads vs. Feds"

Summary: Steve Hager, High Times creative director and legalization proponent, and Bob Stutman, retired Drug Enforcement Agency agent, tackle the complex topic of marijuana legalization.

(April 10, 2011)-War on drugs or assault on freedom? Hear arguments from both sides when “Heads vs. Feds: The Debate to Legalize Marijuana” rolls onto the University of Minnesota, Morris campus on Tuesday, April 12. Firmly advocating opposing viewpoints, Steve Hager, creative director of High Times magazine, and hard-hitting Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) veteran Robert Stutman will engage each other on the complex, contentious topic of marijuana legalization at 7:30 p.m. in Edson Auditorium.

The men’s widely divergent careers might have bred hostility, but friendly adversaries Hager and Stutman claim a 10-year history of speaking together at colleges around the country. Billing their appearance as “a well-balanced forum for students and community on both sides of this embattled topic,” they keep the event fresh by following a largely interactive format, driven by audience questions.

Hager has been a lifelong journalist, starting his first underground newspaper, The Tin Whistle, in 1967 as a high school student in Illinois. He earned a master of arts in journalism from the University of Illinois and in 1988 became editor-in-chief of High Times magazine, “the voice of the marijuana community.” In addition to documentary filmmaking and creating events supporting marijuana legalization, Hager founded the Cannabis Cup, the “academy awards” of marijuana, held every November in Amsterdam. His most recent book, *Adventures in the Counterculture: From Hip Hop to High Times*, includes his groundbreaking essay on rap music and breakdancing in which he coined the term “hip hop.”

Stutman, a 25-year veteran of the DEA, became the youngest supervisor in the agency’s history at age 27. Rising through the ranks, he retired in 1990 as head of the New York Office, the DEA’s largest division. Stutman is devoted to law enforcement and emphasizes the role of prevention in addressing drug use. Many have recognized his contributions, including William F. Buckley, who credited him with “single handedly changing the policy of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration,” and Dan Rather, who dubbed him “a true American hero.” Stutman appears regularly on national television as a drug expert and is currently the special consultant on drug abuse for both CBS and PBS. His autobiography *Dead on Delivery* was a New York Times bestseller and a made-for-TV movie entitled “Mob Justice.”

This event is co-sponsored by the Campus Activities Council Convocations Committee and the UMM chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML). For more information, contact the [Office of Student Activities](#) at 320-589-6080.

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