

**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
FOOD SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FSAC)
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Wednesday, March 12, 2008
Location: UC Rodeo (room 264)
Time: 1:15 p.m. – 1:59 p.m.

Members Present: Paul Sharpe, Faculty Senate
Jason Gregory, Staff Council
Micah Kenfield, UC Policy Board
Salman Amanullah, Student Government Association, Chair
Brandon Brewton, Student Government Association
Brandon McFarland, Residence Hall Association

Ex-officio Members Present: Esmeralda Valdez, Director, Business Services
Sandy Coltharp, Associate Director, Residential Life & Housing
Tom Ehardt, Asst VC/VP for Budget and Finance Operations

UH Dining Members Present: Alisdair Maclean, Resident District Manager
Geoff Herbert, Director of Operations
Sevelia Johnson, Marketing Program Manager

Members Absent: Rebecca Lee, Faculty Senate
Wendy Gary, Staff Council
Mary Elhardt, Student Government Association, Alternate
Joshua Evans, Student Government Association, Alternate
Samuel Dike, UC Policy Board, Alternate
Keith Kowalka, Director, University Center & Associated Facilities
Theodore Kelley, Spec. Asst. to VP/VC for Administration & Finance

Mr. Amanullah called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m

- I. Review and Approval of Minutes
 - a. Mr. Amanullah asked the committee to review the minutes to the February 7 meeting.
 - b. The committee agreed to approve the minutes as written.

- II. Student Concerns
 - a. Problems at the RFOCs
 - i. Mr. Kenfield reported multiple problem at the RFOCs including:
 1. Problems with service at dinner time and weekends.
 2. Dining halls are closing early.
 3. Limited selection of vegetarian dishes.
 4. Vegetarian food is cooked in the same area as meat products.

5. Moody Towers C-store has closed at 12 a.m. instead of 1 a.m.
 6. Managers at the RFOC are hard to get a hold of.
 7. Saltiness of the food is inconsistent; sometime too much and sometime not enough.
- ii. Mr. Kenfield added that:
1. Calvin Dunn told a student that “they should not be a vegetarian because a vegetarian option was not available at the moment.”
 2. Staff told a student that they close early because they do not get paid for the time it takes to clean up after closing up.
 3. Residents are happy with the new employees hired by UH Dining Services.
 4. Some students are gauging whether to live on campus based on their perception of the dining service and the value they spend on meal plans.
- iii. Mr. Amanullah stated that:
1. Customers have sited roaches in Chili’s Too.
 - a. Mr. Herbert noted that:
 - i. The roach problem is an on going issue for the food service business; however they have been addressing it.
 - ii. Chili’s Too will be fogged during Spring Break to kill the pests.
 2. SGA demanding quality meals that is the value of the money they spend.
 3. The Starbucks at Bauer does not offer vegetarian items.
 - a. Mr. Herbert clarified that offerings at Starbucks can not be changed because Starbucks Corporation sets the menus.
 4. He also has experienced food service areas closing early and requested that signs be posted that provides a reason for a location closing early. He also requested having signs posting the number to call if a customer has a problem, concern or complaint.
 - a. Ms. Johnson mentioned that signs are already posted at all the C-stores.
 - b. Ms. Valdez recommended that visible signs with the phone number be posted at all the areas.
- iv. Mr. Brewton noted that:
1. Some of the dining staff have mentioned how badly they are treated, not getting break time and how low they are compensated.
 - a. Mr. MacLean stated that:
 - i. Their employees are given a break of 30 unpaid minutes plus 10-15 minutes to make phone calls and take smoke breaks.
 - ii. The minimum wage for their employees is above the State of Texas minimum wage.
 - iii. All full-time employees have medical benefits available to them, 401K and earn vacation and sick days.
 2. A c-store employee named Donald has had family and friend behind the counter with him during working hours.
 3. Guest of c-store employees have asked him if he is going to eat all the food his is purchasing. He is concerned that other student with possible eating disorders may take offense.

- III. UH Dining Updates
 - a. Dining Styles Survey
 - i. Mr. MacLean mentioned that:
 - 1. The Dining Styles Survey will be available after Spring Break.
 - 2. It will be advertised with flyers in high traffic areas like Moody Towers.
 - 3. For long term planning it is very important that they received student feedback.
 - b. Coffee at Roy Cullen
 - i. Mr. MacLean noted that:
 - 1. They are working with vendors to provide environment friendly products to offer in the coffee shop at Roy Cullen.
 - 2. Starbucks does offer Fair Trade coffee.
 - c. Kosher/Halal
 - i. Mr. Amanullah noted that:
 - 1. Students are requesting quick grab-n-go Kosher/Halal food items be offered at least once a week.
 - 2. They have discussed possibly having a grill at the UC.
 - ii. Mr. MacLean noted that:
 - 1. For food to be kosher a Rabbi must bless the food.
 - 2. Halal food requires the meat to be cut and prepared according to the religious practices.
 - iii. Mr. MacLean asked Mr. Amanullah to share contact information of a good vendor who can provide Aramark Halal food.
 - d. Quizno's at S&R1
 - i. Mr. MacLean reported that the Quizno's project is on hold pending updates for the Fire Marshal.
 - e. CaterTrax
 - i. Mr. MacLean mentioned that Catering Services has launched a new online ordering system called CaterTrax.
- IV. Other Business
 - a. Focus Group
 - i. Ms. Coltharp mentioned that she needed students to participate in a focus group.
 - b. Next Meeting
 - i. Mr. Amanullah noted that the next meeting would be held in the UC Baltic room on April 16 at 1 p.m.

Mr. Kenfield motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:59 p.m. Mr. Brewton seconded.