

Food Services Advisory Committee Meeting  
Minutes December 3, 2009

Attendees: Abeer Mustafa, Javier Hidalgo, Rebecca Lee, Deborah Marks, Michael Harding, Tony Urso, Geoff Herbert, Sevelia Johnson, Esmeralda Valdez, Kenneth Fomunung, Emily Messa, Nicole Sopko, Micah Kenfield, Rebecca Szwarc

I. Open Forum

A. Student Emails to the committee

1. Casey- thank you for having veggie options, please add more Boca burgers or veggie chicken nuggets, please check out [happycow.net](http://happycow.net) or [chooseveg.com](http://chooseveg.com)
2. Josue- gets home late after working at Old Navy and needs a place to eat, would like to advocate for a late dining option for the university, a 24 hour food venue and possibly opening Moody Towers earlier on Sunday
3. Mildred- do not rely heavily on soy products, may want to look into have pre-made salads, consider a 24 hour fresh food restaurant

B. Comments from the Committee and Dining Services

1. Currently evaluating and surveying the arts area of campus (near Communications/Fine Arts building area) for a late night option
2. Look into the idea of adding onto the C-store menu some of the fresher foods and keeping them open later
3. Request by committee for traffic statistics to the eating establishments
4. Need to be sure we have secure areas for people to go when they go to the food venue

II. Congratulations University of Houston Culinary Team

A. Bayou Bucket Classic Cook-Off Throwdown between Chef Brent Gorman and Team UH and Chef Kyle Hardwick and Team Rice

1. Judges from Rice, UH, Farmer's Market and other eating institutions participated in the blind taste testing
2. UH Chef Brent along with Nick Jackson ('11) and Katrina Wamble ('11) took care of business and brought home the trophy cup

III. Canteen Presentation

A. Welcome Mr. Phil and Mr. Nick from Canteen to UH

1. Been watching our campus and doing surveys for our vending machines
2. More credit card readers for the machines are on the way
3. New vending machines are coming in January

B. New Products

1. New Products from the vending machines include: 100 calorie pack cookies, Cinnabon breakfast bar, Baked Cheetos, Baked Lays, Miss Vickers Chips, Habanero Limon Chips, Chile Piquin Chips, Jerky nuggets, cashews, Mini Oreos, Altoids
2. Price range will be around \$1-\$1.25 depending on the product

C. Cougar Cash in vending machines?

1. Something to look into, the vending machines and cougar cash are from different entities
2. UH has over 243 vending machines on campus, Coca-Cola runs the drink vending machines

#### IV. Operational Updates

##### A. Calhoun Lofts- Opening in January

1. Names for the place: Cougar Corner, Cougar Xpress, Calhoun Corner
2. Will be voted on at FinalsMania by students coming on over to the festivities
3. Going to be an on campus grocery store, will feature fresh fruit
4. Hours have not been decided on yet, suggestion: 7am to 11pm

##### B. Dining on the weekends

1. Residential Housing pleased with changes in dining, still would like to see more options on the weekends and hope hours will change giving folks more options

##### C. Meal Plan Options Report

1. Comparison: Report Across Texas

*Tier One Universities Meal Plan Options*

#### University of Texas-Austin

Meal Plan Option: \$1,300 in Dine-In Bucks/ \$300 in Bevo Bucks      Cost of the plan: \$1,600

What are Dine-In Bucks? -Declining balance concept

-Similar to Cougar Cash and will roll-over

-Dine-In bucks can be used in the following Dining Areas at UT-Austin:

- Jester City Limits
- Freshens in Jester
- Jest'A Pizza in Jester
- 40 Acres Bakery in Jester
- Jester City Market
- Jest A Texas Store in Jester
- Jest A Healthy Store in Jester
- Cypress Bend at San Jacinto
- Kin's Market in Kinsolving
- Littlefield Patio Cafe after 2 pm

What are Bevo bucks? -Decline balance concept

-Similar to UH Flex Account because it can be used for food, services, vending machines

-Can be used with participating vendors in the Red McCombs Memorial Stadium areas

Sources:

<http://www.utexas.edu/student/bevobucks/index.php?site=5&scode=0&id=719&menu=156>

<http://www.utexas.edu/student/housing/index.php?id=438&scode=3&site=0>

Texas A & M University- College Station

Source: [http://diningservices.tamu.edu/meal\\_plans/options.stm](http://diningservices.tamu.edu/meal_plans/options.stm)

**Meal Plan Options:**      250 meals/\$100 Dining Dollars Plan      Cost of plan: \$1,743 /  
*semester*

200 meals/\$125 Dining Dollars Plan      Cost of plan: \$1,462 /  
*semester*

*\*For the above two plans:* Save an additional 10% when you purchase one of the following two plans for the whole year. Please note that if you are purchasing one of these plans for just the spring semester you will need to add 10% to the total cost shown.

150 meals/\$150 Dining Dollars Plan      Cost of plan: \$1,225  
*/ semester*

30 meals/\$800 Dining Dollars Plan      Cost of plan: \$1,095  
*/ semester*

30 meals/\$600 Dining Dollars Plan      Cost of plan: \$877 /  
*semester*

30 meals/\$400 Dining Dollars Plan      Cost of plan: \$667 /  
*semester*

Meals do not roll over, dining bucks roll-over

**Additional Meal and Dining Dollar Options**

If you are running low on meals or Dining Dollars, you can add additional bundles to your current plan. Please note that bundles cannot be purchased without a current semester plan.

1 Meal/\$25 Dining Dollars Bundle- \$30 / *semester*

4 Meals/\$100 Dining Dollars Bundle- \$110 / *semester*

10 Meal Bundle - \$60 / *semester*

What are Dining Dollars? – Similar to Cougar Cash, can be used at other Dining establishments around campus

Rice University

**Meal Plan Options: Meal Plans:**

19 meals per week with \$50 in Tetra Points (On Campus Plan): \$1860 per semester

*\*On Campus Plan: "receive 5 free guest meals to be used at their discretion"*

5 meals per week with \$50 in Tetra Points (Plan OC 5): \$700 per semester

*\*For Plan OC 5: "For each of the five provided meals, you may pass through the line only once, yet may receive as much food as you wish."*

Tetra Points similar to Cougar Cash, does roll over. Meals by the week do not roll-over. Tetra points can only be purchased \$50 bucks at a time.

Source: <http://dining.rice.edu/CardsContent.aspx?id=96>

*Emerging Tier One Universities*

Texas Tech University

Meal Plan Options:

	Dining Bucks 50% Fall	Dining Bucks 50% Spring	Totals
<b>Red &amp; Black</b>	923	922	\$3,705.00*
<b>Diamond</b>	784	783	\$3,427.00*
<b>Platinum</b>	694	693	\$3,247.00*
<b>Gold</b>	578	577	\$3,015.00*
<b>Silver</b>	467	467	\$2,794.00*

\*Dining Bucks cover food cost, disposables, supplies and per meal tax. Dining Bucks are split 50 percent in the fall and 50 percent in the spring.

\*Rates include the dining operation cost of \$1,860.00 (plus current applicable state/local sales tax on the operation cost) for the entire year to cover the cost to open the doors. This cost includes utilities, maintenance/repairs, dumpster fees, laundry/uniforms, debt service, royalties, overhead, small wares, major deferred maintenance, partial renovation funding, marketing/printing and equipment and labor costs (salaries and benefits) needed to support the dining service program.

## *12 Month Dining Plan Contract*

*Fall 2009-Spring 2010-Summer 2010*

	Dining Bucks 50% Fall	Dining Bucks 50% Spring	Totals
<b>Red &amp; Black</b>	923	922	\$3,915.00*
<b>Diamond</b>	784	783	\$3,637.00*
<b>Platinum</b>	694	693	\$3,457.00*
<b>Gold</b>	578	577	\$3,225.00*
<b>Silver</b>	467	467	\$3,004.00*

\*Dining Bucks cover food cost, disposables, supplies and per meal tax. 12-month Dining Plan holders must carry a balance to have Dining Bucks in the summer. Dining Bucks are split 50 percent in the fall and 50 percent in the spring.

\*Rates include the dining operation cost of \$2,070.00 (plus current applicable state/local sales tax on the operation cost) for the entire year to cover the cost to open the doors. This cost includes utilities, maintenance/repairs, dumpster fees, laundry/uniforms, debt service, royalties, overhead, small wares, major deferred maintenance, partial renovation funding, marketing/printing and equipment and labor costs (salaries and benefits) needed to support the dining service program.

The program relies on students remembering where they have discounts:

50% discount at The Market (excluding Sunday evening and late-nite service)

30% discount at The Market during Sunday evening and late-nite services

30% discount at Sam Place Express (Law School and Engineering)

20% discount at all Student Union Outlets

25% discount at Sam's Place West

**What are the ADVANTAGES of having a Dining Bucks plan?**

- You receive a 50 percent discount at The Market (excluding Sunday evening and late-nite service). You receive a 30 percent discount at The Market during Sunday evening and late-nite service. You also receive a 30 percent discount at Sam's Place Express (Law School and Engineering).
- You receive a 30 percent discount (food items only) at Sam's Place Mini-market locations in Murray, Wall/Gates, Poolside, and Sneed.
- You receive a 20 percent discount at all Student Union outlets, including Union Bistro, Smart Choices, Sam's Place, the Union Plaza, Just Greens, and Cold Corner.
- You receive a 25 percent discount at Sam's Place West.
- Dining Bucks holders also enjoy the all-you-care-to-eat venues at the following rates:



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AYCE	With Dining Plan*	Without Dining Plan*
<b>Breakfast</b>	\$2.89 DB	\$5.25
<b>Brunch</b>	\$3.49 DB	\$7.75
<b>Lunch</b>	\$3.49 DB	\$6.95
<b>Dinner</b>	\$3.49 DB	\$7.75**
<b>Buffets</b>	\$4.32 DB	\$8.95

The Fresh Plate	With Dining Plan*	Without Dining Plan*
<b>Breakfast</b>	\$3.19 DB	\$5.45
<b>Brunch</b>	\$3.74 DB	\$7.95
<b>Lunch</b>	\$3.74 DB	\$7.95
<b>Dinner</b>	\$3.74 DB	\$7.95

University of Houston:

Proposed Meal Plan Options:

21 meals + \$100 Cougar Cash	\$	1,550
15 meals + \$200 Cougar Cash	\$	1,550
Block 160 + \$400 Cougar Cash	\$	1,550
Block 100 + \$575 Cougar Cash	\$	1,325

Students who eat at dining halls can receive 10% off when they use their Cougar Cash at OB or Moody Towers

- Fresh Food Company opening in Fall 2010 at Moody Towers
- Lifestyle Meal Plans Fall 2010-
  - All-you-care-to-eat meal in the FFCo as low as \$4.13
  - Cost per meal for the most popular meal plan is \$5.38
  - Increase of approximately \$.50 from current year plans
- Remodeled RFoC in Oberholtzer Hall Fall 2011
- Meal Plan Scholarships

- Catering In Kind
- Cougar Cash Expansion to McAlister's Deli, Tealicious, Shasta's Cones and More and Chinese Star
- 10% Cougar Cash Discount at RFoC locations

Largest Made-To-Order Fresh Food Company Facility in the United States of America

## V. Hours of Operation

### A. Changing Hours around Campus

1. Chili's Too will be closed on Sunday, hours were 4-9pm
  - a. Labor pays for every sale on Sundays
  - b. Willing to change it back, if there is a demand
  - c. Not changing Saturday
  - d. Hours: Monday - Friday:  
11:00 am - 10:00 pm

Saturday:

11:00 am - 9:00 pm

Sunday: Closed

### B. Campus Recreation Center C-Store

1. Sunday will be closed
  - a. Hours: Monday–Friday: 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
Saturday - Sunday: CLOSED

### C. Hours of Operation will continue to be evaluated throughout the semester

## VI. Adjourned, have a nice break!