



Food Service Advisory Committee
Meeting Notes

Date: Wednesday, February 11 – 12pm
Location: DV 3138
Attendees: H&AS Andrea D., Vicky J., Megan E.
Staff Antonia L., Chad N.
Faculty
Students Grace A. (Residence), Vera A. (Residence), Andrew P. (UTMSU),
Faisal H. (UTMAGS)

1. Updates from Resident Student Dining Committee

- A. Andrea D. provided a review of the Resident Student Dining Committee on January 28
- Meal plans will maintain First-year / Upper-year designations and be assigned based on residence
 - Friendlier bins have been placed in MaGrath, Leacock, and Putnam laundry rooms
 - Pre-Ordering for Colman Commons has been delayed once again due to issues with the ITC upgrade
 - Vending machines in OPH had to be removed due to the lobby renovations with HAS working with SHRL to find new locations in OPH where vending can be located for next Fall
 - Vending machines have been installed in MaGrath laundry room
 - UTM will be considering an off-campus partnership for Fatboi Grill in the Fall
- B. Andrea D. provided an overview of the meal plan discussion with SHAC on January 29
- The discussion was set up like a focus group to have an open discussion about meal plans and food services
 - The purpose of the discussion was to develop an understanding of meal plans and related issues that meal plan students face, to allow HAS to better target support and messaging, and to provide relevant feedback to Dana
 - Andrea D. mentioned that he made a list of feedback items and walked through the food service areas with Megan E. to confirm details and take pictures of specific examples
 - Andrea D. mentioned that the only feedback he received from meal plan students was seeing one value meal offered at Colman Commons
 - Faisal H. commented that he didn't feel that the value meals were worth the money and relayed his experience purchasing one in the Food Court
 - Vicky J. responded that Dana cannot discount regularly priced items and call them Value Meals

- C. Andrea D. showed a comparison of proposed meal plan rate increases for 2026-27 from other comparable Ontario universities who submitted their proposed increases to CCUFSA
- Andrea D. also showed updated projected food price increases from the 2026 Canada Food Price Report
 - Andrea D. pointed out that food prices are projected to increase by a higher rate than the proposed meal plan increase, but these price increases will be mitigated at UTM by menu engineering and value meals
 - Vicky J. added that the proposed meal plan rate increase at UTM of 2.8% (Basic Dollars) will represent the average price increase on food prices at UTM for 2026-27 and will not include price increases in branded outlets

2. Food Service Updates

- A. Andrea D. informed the Committee that PizzaForno was finally up-and-running
- Andrea D. reminded the Committee that PizzaForno did not accept meal plan funds as payment yet, but will hopefully do so before the Fall
 - Andrea D. also showed the PizzaForno pricing and indicated that customers can order the pizzas already baked or cold to be baked for later
- B. Andrea D. confirmed that the process for allowing Grad Student groups to take advantage of the 30% catering discount has been implemented
- C. Andrea D. indicated that the launch of the Campus Value Plan Loyalty Program has been delayed until March due to lingering issues from the ITC upgrade
- D. Andrea D. provided an overview of the new Student Mystery Shop Program

3. Food Security

- A. Andrea D. presented a summary of the findings from November's Food Security Strategy Jam and from food security survey data run by Josée J.
- Andrea D. listed the key takeaways as:
 - Many food security initiatives are student driven – students funding students
 - There is a need for data collation and data analysis to support programming and to ensure funding is allocated appropriately
 - There needs to be a better understanding / breaking down barriers for institutional programming and food service pricing challenges
 - Data analysis can drive meal plan messaging / programming to support food insecure students in Residence
 - UTM should establish an advisory group to support Tri-Campus structure
 - Andrea D. provided a brief overview of the food ancillary and of the barriers that affect food pricing on campus

NEXT MEETING: Beginning of March (and when Josée J. is available to speak about her findings)