

Blue Ribbon Timeline

- October 2007 – Charge delivered by Dean Benedict. Committee discussed and defined key points. Consultants introduced to the committee. Committee discussed upcoming process. Post meeting, questions were sent to committee members and discussed during the next meeting.
- November 2007 – Presented the current dining program structure to the committee, committee participated with question and answer. Focus group structure and topics were decided. Benchmarking schools defined. Consultants participated via conference call.
- November 2007 – Consultants met with the committee to discuss focus groups and survey. On-campus focus groups were held over the next two days. Meeting discussion led to the initial framework for the survey. Committee determined survey would cover both current practices and “wishes” or hypothetical situations.
- During the months of December, January and February, the survey was developed.
- March 2008 - Committee reconvened in March to review and approve the final survey. Student committee members recommended new members to replace themselves if exiting the committee.
- April 2008 - Survey was launched to the campus.
- May 2008 - New members joined the BRC. Committee revisited “benchmarking” and chose additional schools to benchmark against. Committee decided not to hold meetings over the summer. Consulting team compiled data reports (tables, etc.) for the committee during the summer months.
- September 2008 – Committee reconvened. Members were introduced or reintroduced. Preliminary data from the survey was discussed. Committee started to apply data to current model and began looking at what the survey respondents considered strengths and weaknesses in the current system. Defined key themes in the data.
- October 2008 - Prior to the meeting, committee members were asked to submit answers to questions to guide the evening’s discussion. Themes were developed.
- November 2008– Two meetings held Friday/Monday back-to-back to allow time for committee to start discussing preliminary recommendations with goal of submitting those recommendations to the consultant.

Several conference calls with Envision Strategies, both during meetings and outside of formal meetings, were conducted as needed.