Minutes 10.29.09

- Retreat
  - Task Force Report: dining plan of attack
- Rich Berlin meeting
  - Breakfast
  - Food truck: MIT doesn’t want more food trucks
    - Illegal food permit transfer, Cambridge revoked permit for this reason
  - Pritchett dining: nothing is happening
    - Wants a Chinese place that delivers, since that’s what surveys show students want
- Colombo meeting next week with Paul Baranay
- Report reviews
  - BRDC
    - Endowing the dining system
      - Adam: I don’t think that will happen
  - DPC
    - Quality assurance policy with dining hall providers
    - Moving food trucks to a more centralized location
  - In common
    - Declining balance system
    - Expand options for vegetarians and vegans
    - Create a weekday breakfast service
    - Expand late-night offerings
    - Expanding TechCash to include local grocery stores
    - AYCE service
• Controversial
  • Paul: should be decided by dorm residents
  • Adam: Simmons experimented with only AYCE and it failed
  • Alex: AYCE failed in Ashdown

  ▪ Central dining facility
    • W-1
    • Sivakami: Rich said it will have breakfast

  o Differences
    ▪ Individual eating plans (BRDC)
      • $600 minimum buy-in, not mandatory
    ▪ DPC declining balance
      • $300 minimum, not mandatory

• What should we do
  o Advertising
    ▪ Gift cards for grocery stores
    ▪ Breakfast pilot program

  o Crisis on Dining 10 years ago: Chancellor summarized both reports in an opinion piece
    ▪ Colombo could do this

• Meeting with Colombo
  o November 4th
  o Trying to get a meeting since August
  o Adam, Paul and Daniel Hawkins in attendance

• Outline of how a dining system should be developed
  o How-To of developing a new dining system
  o PR advice
• DormCon meetings with Dining Committee
  o When? Before Colombo meeting? Probably not
  o Solicit feedback from DormCon over email before meeting

• Breakfast Pilot Program
  o Rich Berlin is not excited about grab-n-go, I can install a vending machine
    ▪ Yogurt, milk, fruit, other refrigerated goods
  o Berlin wants to pilot a hot breakfast pilot in 1 or 2 dining halls
    ▪ Thinks vending machines will detract from this plan
    ▪ Willing to invest in this program, thinks it will work
  o Berlin said you need a food permit for pre-packaged food, so he basically put a roadblock on this pilot program
    ▪ Simmons had a pantry (similar to grab-n-go), but it no longer exists. Why?
  o Hot breakfast in dining halls similar to Simmons late-night offerings
  o Berlin: we have an obligation to provide students with breakfast
  o Krishna: the point is to not lose money
  o Committee stance on hot breakfast pilot:
    ▪ Krishna: there is no point in opposing this
  o Grab-n-go: could still happen in non dining hall
    ▪ Go through Donna Denoncourt to get TechCash, since non dining hall dorms aren’t under Rich Berlin
  o Sivakami: Hot breakfast in McCormick failed already
  o Rich Berlin: pilot period for a month
  o Discussions TBA

• Info Alex has
  o MIT Food Initiative
• Leases in the student center
• Compostable materials: Aramark, Sodexo, Bon Appetit

• Before Anna’s...
  o Paul: Before Anna’s, used to be Tosci’s
    ▪ Should we have a student space there instead of food retail
    ▪ Alex: space planning issue
  o Adam: Why move it? It makes sense to put food in a place within the building that is convenient. If you have time to sit in a lounge, you have time to get there so you can put a lounge further away

• Other stuff
  o Paul: Update Senate on this new development in breakfast