

[Present: Vinayak Ranade, Daniel Hawkins, Adam Bockelie, Lyla Fischer, Jonathan Goldberg, Fangfei Shen, Paul Baranay]  
[rough paraphrasing]

**[pending approval]**

Vinayak: minutes will go to ua-senate and ua-dpc and ua-discuss. Add yourself to discuss if you are not a member. Lots of applications have come in since DPC formed, we will try to screen them. There are ~15 applications, we will probably only add 3-4 spots unless there is a standout for an unrepresented segment

Data came today, it is on the website [<http://ua.mit.edu/dpc/>]. There are two excel spreadsheets; download and view them after the meeting. All proceedings will go to the website. Can email ua-dpc or pbaranay about things are missing from the site.

Finances: (Noah) \$500 is reasonable for food/etc.

Vinayak: we also have people in the UA, BRDC (they are eager to work with us). Donna Deanocourt offered to talk to consultants about questions we may have for them. Email her or Vinayak

Business: We have LOTS of data....it will be hard to parse it for relevant information. There is a lot of useless stuff in there that the consultants/admins may not know is useless

Scheduling: We will meet once a week....as update meetings. Offline gatherings in addition to that are encouraged. Should get together to work on data, talk about ideas, etc. Email out that you are going to work. You can be reimbursed for expenditures.

Rough vote: 5ish people are course VI. 5ish have database experience. Nobody confident in really strong excel skills.

Suggestion: use Google docs

Vinayak: At the end of six weeks, we would like to have a report like the BRDC will produce. It needs to have data to support it and we need to have data about BRDC report. Ideas? Tell Vinayak.

Shared Google docs a good idea...emailing link to dpc.

Noah: There should be a ua-dpc-listen list for people interested

Vinayak: I will do that. Official membership doesn't matter that much...official secretary: see how things go.

Scheduling: next week is spring break. Meet week after that. Hawkins making doodle. Will meet at different times each week.

Who is here over Spring Break? Most

Who has time but is not here? A few more.

Vinayak: would like to divide data now. By next time, have five line summary of data seen, plus five interesting stats. (5 non-members want to help with this)

Jon: BRDC Consultant analysis not wrong, conclusions are. No need to replicate work.

Vinayak: so you want to use their results and draw different conclusions? But we don't have the analysis..we can try to get it but don't know if it still exists. We should try to think of things that blue ribbon has not thought of.

Results may not even be in form that are readable to outside world

Vinayak: may have copyright stuff

Noah: consultant pulled a lot of statistics, but there were conflicting questions and consultant ignored some conditional questions.

Vinayak: Work on data in groups of two:

Jon	Cinjon	1-30, File 1
David	Stephanie	31-60, File 1
Hawkins	Michelle	61-80, File 1
Fangfei	Vrajesh	1-30, File 2
Lyla	Adam	31-60, File 2
Raghd	Vinayak	61-80, File 2

(Discussion on editing Google Doc)

Editing Google doc? No, that will keep it safer.

Point is to collaborate? Then why not make it editable?

Vinayak: Can we get a wiki?

Paul: yes. Hours from now

Vinayak; over next ten days, each pair of two:

Dividing data..cannot divide by interest because we don't know what is in each section.

Each pair gets 15 tables.

Todd [grad student]: I'm from a group looking at sustainable food—environmentally, healthy, good tasting, etc. Group is primarily grad students with a faculty member involved. Have been unsuccessful in advocacy for most part, but some success at Steam and at new Ashdown. Trying to get more plugged into official scene. Want to collaborate with DPC a bit later

Dave: collaboration could be a problem...we are looking at separate issues

Todd: synergy with pressuring and lobbying efforts

Dave: kosher, range fed chickens, need to take into account

Vinayak: If you are not part of the committee, give name and email. [attached at end]

For each pair of people working on data: give one or two word description of table contents, plus most significant thing from each table. Don't be redundant. Each table is a response to a question, but some tables are more detailed.

Jon: filter the data.

Vinayak: tell us what is relevant. Make it make sense

Vrajesh: Remember, when looking at 1-5 ratings, the middle is three, not 2.5

Vinayak: anything else?

Schmit: overall timeline?

Vinayak: By next week, we want a summary of data and idea of what needs to be worked on. Pinpoint what BRDC has not done.

Hawkins: Solicit ideas from broad audience. Be realistic look for new ideas

Dave: Are dining ideas on ideabank?

Vinayak: no. but later we can flood idea bank.

Week of 3/29-4/4 we reconvene. We've done our homework by then, start using MATLAB

Week of 4.5-4.11: have answer on getting intermediate data from BRDC, if not by then we assume we can't get it

Jon: Data we have been given is already aggregated, we can't see all the surveys

Cinjon: That means we cannot make regressions

Jon: And we cannot connect responses

Vinayak: will try to get the raw linked data.

Hawkins: that was part of the bill

Vinayak: if can't get it, what do we do

Jon: look at questions and see what is relevant...see what questions need to be asked and then do our own survey.

Vinayak: if you want extra questions note it and put it on wiki. Need list of extra questions by next meeting. May not be feasible to resurvey, but questions will be helpful anyways. Maybe we can get BRDC to extend their process if there are big things that they missed

Week of 4/5-4/11 need preliminary recommendations based on what we have seen..reopen Pritchett etc.

4<sup>th</sup> week: return to data and look for contradictions to preliminary recommendations. Also take our work to BRDC. See how it compares. Give it to BRDC student reps and they will interface with committee

Hawkins: read through old blue ribbon meeting minutes...don't need to redo all that they have done

Vinayak 5<sup>th</sup> week: start writing final report. Final week present and wrap up. Document what we didn't not get a chance to do so that there are instructions for a follow up.

Cinjon: When will we get more survey data?

Vinayak: We will stop trying to get it by next meeting

Cinjon: what about economic data?

Vinayak: tried to get it...emailed finances and terry stone. They refused saying it is confidential.

Lyla: I think I was asked about financials on the BRDC survey

Vinayak: We cannot get student financials. Will try to get more from MIT.

Cinjon: MIT wants economics

Vinayak; recommendations need to have financial assumptions/if near BRDC

Dave: recommendation needs to be financially sensible

Jon: Dining is for-profit now, maybe we make them non-profits?

Vinayak: I will ask for all of the financial information.

Vrajesh: It would be good to have. But if you can't get data get the person.

Vinayak; who do you want?

Todd: Rich Brulin(?), Bon Appetite

Cinjon; did BRDC get financial data?

Erin: NO

Hawkins: BRDC was told that money not the issue.

Paul: if we need to spend more money to make better dining...that is possible

Schmit: if we can't get it from MIT can we get it from vendor?

Vinayak: we can try

Vrajesh: add things to "to do" page on the wiki

Vinayak: who wants to volunteer to get information from 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors? (Cinjon does)

Vinayak to Erin: can you get BRDC to get it (3<sup>rd</sup> party information)?

Erin: will try

Lily?: BRDC report does have some financial estimates.

Vinayak: (about new members): Hawkins, Paul, and I will look at applications. Will respond by Monday.

Hawkins: Nom Com can help if you want

Vinayak: existing committee members will decide

Lyla: is there already someone from a dining hall?

Paul: yes.

Schmit: someone with dietary restrictions?

Vinayak: I don't eat beef.

Vinayak: don't care if you are on committee...your name will go on the report if you do the work

Cinjon: why do we care if there is a vegan?

Vinayak not sure...

Lily: You cannot necessarily see what it is like to get food with restrictions

Paul: current system overlooks people with restrictions

Vinayak: Our priority is to have economically feasible solution

Vrajesh: important to have people represented in the room, but it is also in the data. Make sure the data is really used.

Vinayak: We also have focus group information on website

Dave: what about response skew in data itself?

Vinayak: that should be in the data somewhere

Paul: what about the teams you mention in the agenda?

Vinayak: we will wait until next time. If we finish (looking at data) early we can coordinate over email to move forward.

Todd: (quickly): if you are interested in food see me.

[end]

Non official Members present:

NAME	ATHENA NAME
Stephanie Schmit	smschmit
Raghd El Kahaja	raghd
Erin Munsell (from BRDC, as "advisor")	emunsell
Vrajesh Modi	vrajesh
Lily Berger	lilyb
David Templeton	dtemp
Michelle Nason	mnason
Todd Schenk	tschenk
Cinjon Resnick	cinjon