

Present: Vinayak Ranade, Daniel Hawkins, Fangfei Shen, Lyla Fisher, Cinjon Resnick, Paul Baranay, Stephanie Schmit, Adam Bockelie, Alexandra Jordan, Jonathan Goldberg

Vinayak Ranade: Need to submit report by 4/24. Two weeks from now. Should start writing report in five days. To do that, we need two or three things to document and investigate.

Lyla Fisher: David Templeton and I working on LaVerdes Contract...can't get it.

Vinayak Ranade: Jonathan Goldberg looking at using physics building garden that we don't know how to get to for a lunch place.

Cinjon Resnick: Discredit BRDC as much as possible. Find faults. i.e. faulty data pieces (see email, bases are incorrect)

Vinayak Ranade: Blue Ribbon expects us to do "ninja statistics" to find a stat that they haven't found.

Cinjon Resnick: Have some nifty histograms from the raw data. Could only find one thing the Jonathan Goldberg wanted. They only give us up to question 34 in the raw data. And 50 onward missing.

Vinayak Ranade: We should look at the raw data afterward.

Cinjon Resnick: Table 66 (AYCE) relevant to a lot of things but missing.

Vinayak Ranade: BRDC wants me and Daniel Hawkins at their meeting this week. They want a status update and we can get an update on their status. It takes them 5x longer than us to get stuff done...they have bureaucracy. Donna agrees that breakfast is something to investigate..where to put new options. We should really work on this. Let us set deadlines. By Wednesday we should have economic feasibility of cereal dispensers in each dorm.

Alexandra Jordan: Where would this go?

Vinayak Ranade: Front desk, even for dorms w/o dining. Grab and go.

Jonathan Goldberg: Should not limit to cereal. Dorm should be instructed to charge maybe \$10/yr to student.

Alexandra Jordan: In addition to dining hall breakfast?

Jonathan Goldberg: yes. But this would provide snacks

Lyla Fisher: Need to be careful that we don't make this sound like it is mandatory.

Daniel Hawkins: This should be something that the dorms do. Each dorm should figure out what dorms want and how to implement it.

Vinayak Ranade: On the MIT side, the institute would commit to support the operation (paperwork, space).

Lyla Fisher: Participation would be dorm wide not individual.

Cinjon Resnick: How long is this open?

Vinayak Ranade: This should be run by the dorms...the hours would be set by the dorm.

Daniel Hawkins: Simons desk workers suck.

Lyla Fisher: If it is funded by the dorm it wouldn't matter.

Stephanie Schmit: Each dorm doesn't have a dining committee....BC Doesn't.

Lyla Fisher: They would need to get one.,

Alexandra Jordan: We want to set up the infrastructure for dorms to do this in other words. I also think that we should look at the dining systems at other universities of similar size. We should look at what deficits they run.

Daniel Hawkins: Chancellor Clay said that BRDC is told not to think about money. But the institute won't support something that is financially unviable. But he does not want BRDC to think about it...they should make the best, not cheapest, plan.

Alexandra Jordan: The consultant's report made the cheapest plan

Vinayak Ranade: But that wasn't the intent. It's just what consultants do.

Vinayak Ranade: Alexandra Jordan in charge of studying other universities. What other things should we think about?

Alexandra Jordan: At UC system you are not required to use a meal plan but they are available. Dining halls are open a lot more often than here and there are more choices. But they have 20k_+ students...we have 4k. Also we are treated more like adults than students at other schools.

Vinayak Ranade: Pick three other school that represent "competition" and look at them...CMU, Caltech, and Harvard?

Stephanie Schmit: I feel like an important difference is that we are a lot more stressful and time consuming to be here. We won't go far to get food.

Daniel Hawkins: Clay likes the idea of people sitting down and "dining together" instead of just eating.

Vinayak Ranade: We don't not want that...but we need other options.

Jonathan Goldberg: Can we focus on what our recommendations would look like....what do we think about mandatory dining, AYCE, breakfast, etc. Make an outline.

Stephanie Schmit: That way of thinking sounds good. Let's set out the current system and find what needs to be changed. Most financially sound option would be fewest facilities changes.

Jonathan Goldberg: Should mention that our report won't require too many facilities changes.

Vinayak Ranade: We will make sure that the wording and structure of the report will be convincing. But we need to focus on content.

Daniel Hawkins: I'll outline a report. Send me comments.

Vinayak Ranade: Lunch. We talked about this last time. Allison Hinkley and Jonathan Goldberg were looking at it.

Jonathan Goldberg: We tried to get data. See how much people spend; try to provide something more nutritious and cheaper.

Daniel Hawkins: Putting a dining hall in the student center would make dining more stable. It would give dining part of the money spent on lunch/breakfast.

Vinayak Ranade: That is similar to what they wanted to do with W1. But there was a massive pushback to that.

Daniel Hawkins: Because they also wanted to remove kitchens.

Jonathan Goldberg: So don't make it mandatory and keep the kitchens.

Daniel Hawkins: Another chance for HD people to use their membership...they don't have to eat dinner all the time at the dorm. And W20 is already a central location.

Alexandra Jordan: Take space from Lobdell. People eat dinner here and are here late anyways. An official Dining Hall.

Stephanie Schmit: Sounds reasonable but I don't think that adding a dining facility would make us make more money.

Lyla Fisher: And Lobdell is used for arts stuff.

Vinayak Ranade: We should have short and long term recommendations. Short is while economy is terrible. Recommendations should not dislodge things that people like as they are.

Jonathan Goldberg: There is a difference between dinner and lunch. People don't have time to make lunch.

Vinayak Ranade: The preliminary report is for us to gauge reactions to our plan.

Alexandra Jordan: Lobdell was closed because it didn't make money.

Vinayak Ranade: Pritchett tried all different combinations (ala carte, AYCE, late night, lounge space, etc). None worked.

Cinjon Resnick: What about replacing coffee house with a LaVerdes Substitute?

Alexandra Jordan: What if they collude?

Cinjon Resnick: That is a point. But I don't think that they will work together. Third floor would have to have lower prices because you have to walk to it.

Alexandra Jordan: Would be nice to have something that is not a carbon copy of LaVerdes.

Vinayak Ranade: Hippie Health Bar.

Alexandra Jordan: Just not chips, etc.

Fangfei Shen: what about groups who use coffeehouse?

Vinayak Ranade: it is just a general space.

Alexandra Jordan: Can we get records for that?

Vinayak Ranade: Coffeehouse used to be a Student run late night place. Only conspiracy theories about why it shut down...competed with LaVerdes, not enough student workers. But would be awesome to have it again.

Cinjon Resnick: Converting coffeehouse...what are the options?

Group: Jamba Juice, LaVerdes Competitor, Old CoffeeHouse

Vinayak Ranade: Make your own sandwich bar.

Cinjon Resnick: Pret a Manger (sandwich place)

Vinayak Ranade: Report should have section about meal times (Breakfast, lunch dinner, late night). Section on locations and what to do with them (coffee house, Lobdell, etc). Section comparing current system to old MIT system and other university systems. Section on data inconsistencies. Section on what we want changed.

Vinayak Ranade: We still haven't talked about Lunch.

Cinjon Resnick: Before that...what do we want to ask Donna?

(Q50 onward raw data)

Cinjon Resnick: inconsistent base

Vinayak Ranade: do we want them to clarify or re run the data.

Stephanie Schmit: I think that is what they meant to do but it doesn't make sense.

Cinjon Resnick: Have her point out that the base is wrong.

Vinayak Ranade: Send me that wording.

Stephanie Schmit: Questions "you indicated that you have house dining" but the respondents didn't have house dining...inconsistencies.

Vinayak Ranade: To ask Donna these questions I need exact references. Send those to me and I'll email Donna.

Jonathan Goldberg: When to they announce final results?

Vinayak Ranade: Next few weeks. Set by Dean Colombo as May 1.

Daniel Hawkins: BRDC told Senate that they would release a draft for student input two weeks before the deadline.

Vinayak Ranade: We will be in a good position to review their report. We might have to put our work on hold to review their data.

Jonathan Goldberg: Is it possible to get the report before it goes out to everyone?

Daniel Hawkins: If we have it we have to share it.

Vinayak Ranade: I want to investigate using Bosworth's for lunch.

Alexandra Jordan: We don't need to do lunch because we already have good options that are good and cheap. The meal is not outrageous.

Stephanie Schmit: I disagree that lunch is good.

Lyla Fisher: So do I. But the current lunch system is not optimal.

Vinayak Ranade: What does the majority of the student population think?

Alexandra Jordan: I don't think that people would walk as far as Baker for lunch.

Cinjon Resnick: The problem with lunch is variety.

Alexandra Jordan: Lets list lunch options on campus.

Student Center
Steam Cafe
Cafe 4
Stata
Food Trucks
Cosi
ABP
Sebastians
Somewhere in Sloan?
Whitehead
BioCafe
Hungry Mind (blg 46)

Jonathan Goldberg: Most of these places serve cold food or salads. It's not interesting.

Alexandra Jordan; Stata has hot and interesting options.

Stephanie Schmit: The only thing I will eat is a toasted bagel with cream cheese. The salads are too big.

Vinayak Ranade: The problem is the overall package...not one particular option.

Fangfei Shen: A lot of faculty eat in Stata

Alexandra Jordan: A lot of people eat in Steam.

Stephanie Schmit: The location distribution is good.

Cinjon Resnick: What about putting Daimen's in Coffeehouse? (Some place in Kendall)

Cinjon Resnick: In food court with the Coop.

Vinayak Ranade: Food court in Kendall is for all economic levels.

Jonathan Goldberg: It is healthy and fresh. How do we make the rest of the food on campus healthier and cheaper?

Alexandra Jordan: That will make it more expensive. Prepackaging makes the price lower.

Jonathan Goldberg: What if we tax unhealthy food?

Cinjon Resnick: No.

Adam Bockelie; Lots of bureaucracy.

Alexandra Jordan: Debit Cards are now accepted...that is great.

Vinayak Ranade: Enough lunch. Stephanie Schmit investigate lunch in general (possibility of Daimens in Coffeehouse, other lunch options that need to be investigated, changes/improvements to existing facilities)

Cinjon Resnick: Would be better to have food trucks closer.

Vinayak Ranade: Can't do anything soon.

Alexandra Jordan: A lot of people still go there. And they are better for Sloan now.

Alexandra Jordan: Could work directly with food trucks about keeping prices down if we move them to a place with more business.

Stephanie Schmit: Can we put them in the parking lot between blg. 3 and 5?

Vinayak Ranade: No...you have to deal with a lot of people.

Alexandra Jordan: What about parking around the dot?

Vinayak Ranade: That is the god child of MIT grounds.

Alexandra Jordan: We should also think about the couscous truck on Mass Ave.

Vinayak Ranade: There are a lot of new places that are appearing around campus...new places in Tech Square, etc.

Alexandra Jordan: There are a lot of options.

Cinjon Resnick: But they are not available everywhere.

Vinayak Ranade: Basically LaVerdes needs to just not suck. Jonathan Goldberg look at breakfast. Make a proposal (1-2 pgs). Rough cost estimates and logistics. Prototype. Alexandra Jordan will study "similar" schools.

Alexandra Jordan: I looked at schools similar in size.

Vinayak Ranade: Harvard, Columbia, Yale.

Alexandra Jordan: I could also do a fourth schools (UC Berkley) which is much bigger but does similar research, etc.

Vinayak Ranade: Harvard is a good thing to look at...they have to deal with similar issues.

Vinayak Ranade: Stephanie Schmit is looking at lunch. What can/can't we put in coffeehouse (Daimens, Old coffee house, LaVerdes 2.0). Why we want the food trucks where they were.

Alexandra Jordan: Talk with them about price agreements.

Vinayak Ranade: We are not negotiating. We are telling BRDC and Rich Berlin what we want. Daniel Hawkins in charge of report outline. Send him bullet points.

Daniel Hawkins: I can help with wording.

Vinayak Ranade: Cinjon Resnick in charge of data inconsistencies.

Vinayak Ranade: Next meeting?

Cinjon Resnick: Before BRDC

Vinayak Ranade: That is Thursday at 6:30ish. Meet Wednesday.

Daniel Hawkins: Will send out doodle.

Vinayak Ranade: Get in touch with Allison Hinkley (Adam Bockelie) and tell her what we've done; what we are working on. Fangfei Shen help Stephanie Schmit.

Vinayak Ranade: What is left?

Fangfei Shen: what about improving current dining halls?

Stephanie Schmit: Basically what I am doing but for dinner.

Vinayak Ranade: Adam Bockelie and Allison Hinkley work on dinner improvements.

Alexandra Jordan: can we suggest that kitchens get kept in W1?

Group: yes.

Vinayak Ranade: Paul Baranay everything that we do is online?

Paul Baranay: Yes...I have emailed people who don't have biographies yet.

Vinayak Ranade: Email summaries of data tables to Paul Baranay.

Cinjon Resnick: should we compile the summaries?

Vinayak Ranade: Do that later.

Stephanie Schmit: I haven't read anybody else's...

Vinayak Ranade: I'll read all of the summaries and compile them into one document.

Notes on whiteboard:

Data Inconsistencies

Q50+ missing

Cinjon Resnick looking into that

Breakfast

Dorms opt in and out

We give infrastructure. They choose.

Jonathan Goldberg in charge.

Lunch

Place:

- **Student center**
- **Cafe4**
- **Steam café**
- **Stata**
- **Bosworth's**
- **Biocafe**
- **Foodtrucks**
- **Kendall food court**
- **Kendall restaurants (Cosi, Sebastians, ABP)**
- **Whitehead Deli**
- **Sloan Café**

- **Building 46**
Stephanie Schmit in charge

Comparison:

Look at similar schools

i.e.:

Plans optional but available

More hours

What works for them

Alexandra Jordan in charge...3 schools

Outline

Send ideas to Daniel Hawkins

General

Competition to LaVerdes in place of Coffee House

Reinstate Coffee House

Pret-a-Manger

Bosworth's

Damons (I don't know how to spell this if you can't tell yet)

Food truck locations

Jamba Juice

Asking BRDC:

Q50+

Base is wrong for Q36 and Q37

Get early copy of draft report