



University Auxiliary Services at Albany, Inc.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Friday, April 5, 2019
Indian Quad - Danes Den

President Christakis convened the meeting at 12:10 PM. The following Directors were present:

Dr. Michael N. Christakis	Dr. Jason D'Cruz	Mr. Nicholas Pepe
Ms. Langie Cadesca	Mr. Todd Foreman	Mr. Fardin Sanai
Mr. Dylan Card	Mr. John Giarrusso	Mr. Lee Serravillo
Ms. Karen Chico Hurst	Mr. Stephen Pearse	Ms. Latonia Spencer

ABSENT: Ms. Damilola Adesanya; Mr. Brandon Holdridge; Ms. Tiffany Hopkin; Ms. Carol Perrin; Ms. Tarlee Sonie; and Ms. Cara White.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Ms. Michelle Bowen, Senior Director of Marketing & Communication; Ms. Michelle Schifley, Senior Director of Administration; Mr. Randy Simmons, Senior Director of Finance & Business Administration; Ms. Nancy Harrigan, Administrative Assistant;

GUEST: Grace McGrath

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Grace McGrath spoke to the Board about the student initiative to end plastic straw use on campus. A proposal that has been adopted by the Student Association includes: a provision to provide a reusable metal straw with a cleaning brush to students; having paper straws available only upon request; and, a complete phase out of plastic straw use on campus by fall semester 2019. Ms. McGrath expressed the hope that this first step would lead to further initiatives in campus dining to reduce waste and set UAlbany up in a leadership role to inspire other schools to adopt similar measures.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 15, 2019 MINUTES

Mr. Pepe made a motion to approve the February 15, 2019 Board meeting minutes. Ms. Cadesca seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS

2019-2020 Meal Plans

Mr. Pearse presented the proposed meal plan rates for 2019-2020. The actual overall increase across all plans from 2018-2019 is 2.6%. Mr. Pearse reported that the Services Committee had reviewed the meal plans and given their approval. A comparison with peer schools shows that our top meal price for 2019-2020 is lower than the top meal plan prices at other schools for 2018-2019.

Mr. Foreman made a motion to accept the 2019-2020 meal plan rates as presented. Mr. Sanai seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

State Quad Summer Renovation

Mr. Pearse reported that the contract for the work to renovate the State Quad dining hall over the summer would be finalized soon and provided some tile and color samples for the Board to review

Campus Center East Expansion Feasibility Update

Mr. Pearse reported that additional options for an expansion to the east side of the campus center will be included in the feasibility study conducted by Edge Architecture. Specifically, the feasibility of including a new resident dining venue (all-you-care-to-eat to replace Indian and State Dining Halls), as well as a bookstore and a banquet facility.

Downtown Dell Grand Opening

Mr. Pearse reported that the recrafted Downtown Deli opened on March 18. Reviews seem generally positive for the new deli venue that features Boars Head meats. Ms. Cadesca commented that she is seeing more students there and that the sandwiches were good.

Mobile ID Update

Ms. Schifley reported that more people have been added to the test for the mobile id app this semester and that UAS has worked in conjunction with the UAlbany IT department to assure appropriate security was in place. The app will be rolled out to students in the fall.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Personnel Update

Mr. Pearse advised the Board that Roxanne Welch would be joining the UAS team next week as Senior Manager of Dining and Contracted Service Operations.

NEW BUSINESS

“By Land or Sea” Events

Mr. Pearse highlighted the dining initiative of By Land or Sea and reported a large increase in residential dining transactions for those events featuring steak and lobster.

1844 Sunday Brunch

Mr. Pearse reported that 42 students attended the first Sunday brunch held at 1844 Restaurant.

Plastic Straw Usage on Campus

The Board expressed their endorsement of ending the use of plastic straws on campus and having paper straws available in retail dining venues on an opt-in basis. Dr. Christakis recommended that the Board prepare to adopt a resolution similar to the Student Association proposal at the next meeting.

Alumni Quad Occupancy Status

Mr. Pearse reported that occupancy at Alumni is expected to be lower next year and Sayles and Alden Halls will be off-line for renovation work. The meal plans will stay the same and the Food on Demand concept at the dining hall will remain in place

Annual UAS Scholarship Contribution

Mr. Pearse informed the Board of the proposal for an annual UAS scholarship contribution to help fund the strategic initiative. The proposal would start with a \$250,000 contribution in year one (2019-2020) and increase by \$250,000 until year 4, remaining at \$1,000,000 each year going forward. The undergraduate, non-tuition, recruitment scholarship would be made as a donation to the Foundation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive

Dr. Christakis reported that 2 vacant UAS Board seats for 2019-2020 were being voted on by the University Senate.

Services

In the absence of Ms. Perrin, Mr. Pearse reported on the work of the Services Committee. The two items not already covered were:

- The bookstore is working with the University, including athletics and the Alumni Association to set up an on line ecommerce program to make it easier to get True Spirit wear.
- The Food Pantry will be opening in the Campus Center on June 22. The food pantry will accept food or money donations and will serve the students.

Program

Mr. Card reported that today is the deadline for the receipt of round I applications for 2019-2020. The committee continues to review supplemental applications for 2018-2019. The question was raised about the prohibition of using Program Funds for off-campus events. The Program Committee will discuss the question at their next meeting and bring a recommendation to the Board.

Finance and Audit

Mr. Foreman reported that the Finance and Audit committee met to review the budget. Mr. Foreman presented the budget to the Board and made a motion to accept the budget as presented on behalf of the Finance and Audit Committee. Following discussion the motion was unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Christakis adjourned the meeting at 1:23 PM

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