

Real Food Working Group Meeting
Thursday, November 6th, 2014 4:00pm-5:15pm
Aiken 311

Attendees

Students

Annalena Barrett (student), Maria Carabello (Food Systems Masters Program), Alyssa Johnson (student), Jennifer Porter (Food Systems Masters Program), Olivia Peroco (student), Olivia Peña (student), Zachary Fayer (Student)

Administration/Staff

Alison Nihart (Assistant to the Food Systems Initiative), Gioia Thompson (Director, Office of Sustainability)

University Dining Services

Caylin McKee (Sustainability and Social Media Coordinator), Melissa Zelazny (General Manager), James Rallo (Brennan's Chef)

Guests

Matt Myers (Food Systems Internship Coordinator)

Agenda

Facilitator - Annalena Barrett

Notetaker - Jennifer Porter

- Kentucky RFC Multi-stakeholder Retreat report back (Alison/Annalena)
 - o Friday was focused on farm-to-institution efforts (about 60 people)
 - o Saturday they met with other schools that had signed Real Food Campus Commitment (about 15 people)
 - Some schools are doing really different things than us
 - E.g. Johns Hopkins has a product procurement intern
 - Alison got to network with her peers at other schools
- Upcoming: Northeast Implementation Student Retreat, November 8-9 Boston, MA
 - o Olivia and Gina will be attending
 - o Two other Real Food Rev students are likely attending as well

Implementation Committee Update (Caylin)

- Calculator progress
 - o Kayla and Joe have been speeding through the data
 - o Very close to an Oct. 2013 number (as soon as two weeks!)
 - o This will be a useful benchmark for us because we made a lot of changes this fall
 - o Talked about powdered flavorings for coffee last meeting
 - James obtained samples and will be working with someone next week to tweak recipes—will probably take another month or two to figure out
 - Brennans will do a tasting in early December for new menu
 - Found a real bacon (uncured) that he is considering
 - Would be an easy transition at Brennans because their bacon prices are increasing

- Need student help with spreading the word

Policy Committee Update (Alyssa/Alison)

- Multi-year action plan
 - National RFC staff expressed the value of developing an institutional policy, but this is a very large undertaking. We can tackle that next year
 - Calculator interns can take on some roles of a product procurement intern
 - Amend number of calculator interns to two instead of four
 - Present members voted and we will seek votes from other members via email
 - Final document will be posted on website
- RFWG Charter/Guidelines
 - Johns Hopkins calls their document a charter—might be a more appropriate name
 - Present members voted and we will seek votes from other members via email
 - Final document will be posted on website

Outreach Committee Update (Jennifer)

- We have not yet heard when the Across the Fence episode will air
- RFWG students got a picture with Michael Pollan holding a “I eat Real Food” sign,” which will be uploaded to Facebook and the website
- Joe’s office has some money they can give us for community relations
 - Sponsor an event with a local partner (e.g. South End Kitchen) to educate public about RFC
 - Large banner to hang outside Morrill so it faces Main St.
 - If you have any ideas of how we can educate the Burlington community about our efforts please Jennifer know

Student Club (Olivia/Alyssa)

- Food Day report back
 - Real Food Rev tabled most of the day
 - Might want to do some more tabling because it was really valuable
 - Made \$100 with raffle to reimburse the working group for workshops
 - James hand pressed cider in Brennans
 - Got lots of photographs of people at the goat roast holding a “I eat real at UVM” sign—check them out on Facebook (may want to put some on the website)
- How have meetings been?
 - Have a core group of really dedicated students
 - Attendance fluctuates between 3 and 15 people
 - Tabling may help get a stronger base of members
- SGA update
 - Rick management plan is incomplete, so it needs to be redone
 - Need risk management to move forward with SGA recognition
- Outreach for Open Forums

- They will focus their efforts on this for the remainder of the semester
- Milk with Dignity
 - Migrant Justice campaign is seeking to create a price premium on milk to support better living and working conditions for migrant workers on dairy farms
 - The club may be the best avenue for UVM to join this cause
 - Annalena and Alison are going to meet with representatives tomorrow
- Vermont Power Shift
 - A bunch of Vermont schools are gathering next week to discuss env. issues
 - Olivia is sitting on a food justice panel and will be discussing RFC
 - May be a good place to have conversations about creating a state wide RFC campaign (like California)

The remainder of the meeting will be in executive session