

## **UVM Real Food Working Group**

December 4, 2018 | 8:30-10:30 AM | Jeffords 227

Facilitator: Taran

Notetaker: Betsy

### **Individual Reflection (7 min)**

- a. Reflect on our work and your role in that individually
- b. Share with a partner or small group

### **Introductions and Warm Up (8 min)**

1. Name, pronouns, affiliation
  - a. Marissa (she/her): sustainability manager for UVM Dining -- Beef Wellington
  - b. Taran (he/him): student co-chair, sun butter
  - c. Makenzie (she/her): pasta
  - d. Betsy (she/her): homemade chex mix
  - e. Ariane (she/her/they): California foods
  - f. Bridget (she/her): marinated foods
  - g. Sylvia Geiger (she/her): chestnut, mushroom soup
  - h. Nell (she/they): Jericho Settlers farm food
  - i. Eva (she/her): making food for mom
  - j. Lauren (she/her): mom's lasagna
  - k. Laura (she/her)
2. Icebreaker

### **Mikayla Humiston Introduction/Background (5 min)**

- a. Not a majority of all groups represented here - vote will be sent out in email

### **Progress and Support Reports (30 min)**

- a. Internal Policy: Betsy/Bridget/Andre
  - i. Met with reps from the Med Center (Lauren Kaskey)
  - ii. Marissa: able to absorb some of the food cost into their budget
  - iii. Scott & Diane are very involved with FINE
  - iv. Prior little engagement, but Diane is open to it
    1. Reached out to work on Kendall together
- b. External Policy: Nell/Eva
  - i. Brainstorming how changing guidelines to RF guidelines is going to impact farmers
  - ii. What are the RF guidelines trying to do? Not necessarily a culture of certifications in VT
  - iii. Looking into existing farmer surveys and apply the new certifications and consider how stricter certifications will interact

- c. Communications and Outreach: Ariane
  - i. Needs a push to get the presentations and flyering completed soon
  - ii. Future plans: create some type of grid for the presentations
  - iii. Final sketch for posters--no critiques so far. Ariane will send a photo to the working group
  - iv. Engaged in meatless Monday
  - v. Nell: a communications campaign might be beneficial to change the dialogue on food; not a healthy on-campus dialogue
    - 1. Panels, info on the things that are being doing, what does it mean to eat at UVM
- d. Calculator Updates: Laura
  - i. Worked through July data and now sifting through October
  - ii. Lots of new producers since July

**Mission Statement Group Brainstorm (20 min) Bridget**

- a. Internal policy has been considering the framework for the working group
- b. Helpful model is the What → How → Why concentric circles
- c. <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-ABP1qgquJVugUOTTWBoTMQjJJyohs2I9vyxvR-hlyk/edit?usp=sharing> Here is our brainstorming note sheet
- d. Future plans: use these notes to have a consolidation of ideas and themes, possible to have a draft
- e. Annie: perhaps have the Advisory Council consider the mission statement
- f. Nell: do we want to come to the Advisory Council and have them input on our vision/mission
  - i. Make the distinction between student-led ideas and the **advisory nature** of the Advisory Council

**Uprooted & Rising Reflections and Thoughts (5 min)**

- a. Marissa and Annie have met with sustainability coordinator (Judy Paneos), has been the liaison between Sodexo and Real Meals to discuss terms
  - i. Her position and the position that Sodexo is embracing is that we agree with a lot of the calls to action in terms of needing to address them
    - 1. We do have some systems in place to address them already such as a service provider code of conduct to address workers rights
    - 2. She's hoping that we can have more of a collaborative approach
    - 3. Direct action has broken down some of our conversations on campuses and Judy hopes January meeting can help build that conversation between U&R
    - 4. We agree that we want to look at the root cause of the details
      - a. How can we find a common "what" between what real meals is asking for and
      - b. It's not about Big Food necessarily but about what big food does

- i. How do we adopt more corporate responsible policies that help everyone
5. Annie: We will know more in January from that conversation, if there is more feedback from what we are seeing on the ground to give to Judy
6. Matt: this group is a leader in this work, maybe we can look to sharing our success stories and strategies with other universities
7. Bridget: Take away from the webinar is that other universities are facing much larger challenges and look to us as leaders
8. Annie: My read was that it was looking at Universities themselves and wondering if that has spurred conversations elsewhere on campus--like the nature of it as a Land Grant University

### **Advisory Council Discussion and Brainstorm (20 min)**

*Here are the names and positions of our Advisory Council members:*

- **Caylin McCamp**: Education and Outreach Coordinator, UVM Office of Sustainability (former UVM Dining Sustainability Manager)
- **Chuck Ross**: Director, UVM Extension
- **Justin Rich**: Burnt Rock Farm
- **Kyle Foley**: Sustainable Seafood Program Manager, Gulf of Maine Research Institute
- **Lauren Kaskey**: New England Regional Coordinator, Healthy Food in Health Care Program, Health Care Without Harm
- **Laura Ginsburg**: Agricultural Development Section Chief, VT Agency of Agriculture
- **Steve Schubart**: Walden Local Meat Company, Grass Cattle Company LLC

- a. Brainstorm what we want to bring to the group
  - i. Mission statement broadly and considering the scope of our work beyond 2020
  - ii. Transfer of our institutional and historical knowledge
  - iii. We have gotten to the point of not seeing our working group as an island
    1. Time commitment and energy may be in commitment: should we strive to improve our numbers or increase breadth to other campuses
  - iv. Topics they should know more about: Real Meals and U&R, what have we done in the past, and some ideas on where we go in the future

1. What do we think our next metric and goal is?
2. Are we the lead college providing support to other colleges/universities? Should we pick a new goal around justice or sustainability?
3. The advisory council was tasked as FtP was ending at 2020
  - a. Using the first half of the meeting of updating and using the second half to assess what it is that they see as the important role of UVM dining
  - b. Create and ad hoc team for planning this meeting

### **Alternative Metrics for assessing sustainability and ethics:**

- 2 methods:
  - [AASHE/STARS](#): there are dues and works on scoring based on values and takes into account the size of the school. Do we want to focus more on this metric system? Resources such as AASHE bulletin and tracking software
    - UVM already reports through AASHE/STARS through Office of Sustainability
  - [Menus of Change](#) from Harvard School of Public Health & Culinary Institute of America: 6th year of operation (maybe coined the term of plant forward which emphasized plant-based foods but not exclusively so), currently partner with Aramark
- 2 schools:
  - Duke: different priorities for meat & dairy which are similar to RF original goals, climate-friendly menus
  - Stanford: Heavy focus on local and family-owned operations nationwide and in their local communities. Different standards for meat & dairy, tea & coffee
  - K-12: Good food purchasing program and focus is local economies, nutrition, local workforce, environmental sustainability
  - [Cool Food Pledge](#): climate-change oriented
- Differentiation between RF and some of these other programs is the **RF is student-driven**

### **Action Team Breakout (15 min)**

- a. Gather with your group and plan for the spring semester

### **Closing and next steps (10 min)**

- a. 'I liked' and 'how abouts' (everyone!)
- b. Goodbye to Nell

### **Parking Lot**

- Charter updates to include student interns/independent study student as formal Working Group members
- Idea to include Alison Nihart in the January Advisory Council meeting and/or the mission statement and vision process
- Discussion on Meatless Mondays and broader challenge of UVM community members bashing/not understanding UVM Dining

### **Individual Reflection (7 min)**

- a. Consider what we did this semester, what your role was in that, what you enjoyed, and what more you could have received from this experience and how
- b. Share with a partner or small group

### **Introductions and Warm Up (8 min)**

- a. Share your name, affiliation, pronoun(s), and what food(s) you are looking forward to eating during winter break

### **Mikayla Humiston Introduction/Background (5 min)**

- a. Vote on whether we will bring Mikayla on in the spring semester
- b. The voting procedure shall be as follows:
  - i. Only official RFWG members may vote. Anyone else present at the meeting shall abstain.
  - ii. A simple majority from each of the other stakeholder groups must be present to meet quorum. (If quorum is not met, an online poll will be used entirely or to collect the missing votes.)
  - iii. There will be one round of voting using written ballots.
  - iv. Ballots will be counted by one student member and one non-student member.
  - v. The measure will pass if it receives 2/3 of votes cast.

### **Progress and Support Reports (30 min)**

- a. What have you done so far? What has been working well? What has been challenging?
  - i. Internal Policy (Bridget, Andre, Betsy)
  - ii. External Policy (Eva, Nell, Taran)
  - iii. Communications and Outreach (Lauren K., Lauren G., Ariane, Mackenzie)
  - iv. Research (Devon, Ann)
  - v. Calculator (Laura, Marissa)

### **Mission Statement Group Brainstorm (20 min)**

- a. Explanation of a vision
- b. Presentation of charter and need for a vision
  - i. [https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Real-Food-Challenge/Spring\\_2018\\_Final\\_Draft\\_Review\\_UVM\\_RFWG\\_Charter.docx.pdf](https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Real-Food-Challenge/Spring_2018_Final_Draft_Review_UVM_RFWG_Charter.docx.pdf)
- c. **Ted talk** on the Why → How → What → Objectives → tasks
- d. Consider the following questions:
  - i. Why are you in this working group? (continue to ask why once you have an answer)
  - ii. How do you want to impact this food system?
  - iii. What does a just food system look like to you? What does a sustainable food system look like to you?

- iv. What are you inspired by?
- e. Write out a draft that you could see as a vision statement
- f. Break into 4 groups and write out your own vision statement based on the individual ones

**Uprooted & Rising Reflections and Thoughts (5 min)**

- a. Those who attended the webinar will share any thoughts relevant to how Uprooted & Rising applies to our community

**Advisory Council Discussion and Brainstorm (20 min)**

- a. Brainstorm what we want to ask the AC
- b. Create an ad hoc action team for planning and engaging with the AC in January

**Action Team Breakout (15 min)**

- a. Add any necessary updates to the Action Team Matrix
- b. Create a timeline to achieve at least one goal in the spring
- c. Put spring semester schedules into Outlook and plan at least one meeting time

**Closing and next steps (10 min)**

- a. Share what you liked about this meeting and what you think could be altered for the next meeting
- b. Goodbye Nell!
  - i. Give Nell lots of love and positive energy