

SLAAC Meeting Minutes

9/13/07 – 4:00

Attending: Angela Castenada, Tiffany Hebb, Lynn Bedard, Marnie McInnes, Carla Edwards, John Schomburg, Anne Harris (chair), Alycia Keller, Peter Graham and Ophelia Goma.

After brief introductions, Anne Harris conveyed the current goals of SLAAC that she had identified.

1. Wellness initiative
 - Anne Harris met with Janet Vaglia (immediate past-chair of SLAAC) to discuss where the wellness initiative had been left. They discussed AQIP goals, and the status of the wellness subcommittee, which no longer seems to be active.
 - Marnie McInnes suggested that we get Jana Grimes involved with the subcommittee – Anne Harris will contact her to get her input.
 - Peter Graham is interested in serving on the subcommittee.
 - Food services is timely, as the Sodexo contract is currently up for renewal. There's also a student "Food Advisory Board," but nobody was sure that it was very active right now.
 - Anderson Street Hall is set to be demolished, and there have been conversations about what was to go there – people are interested in a wellness center and a spiritual life center.
 - There's a lot of interest in a Tai Chi or yoga instructor on campus.
 - Ken Kirkpatrick is putting together a list of health initiatives for AQIP – we need to see this.
2. Election of a SLAAC representative to the Coalition for a Responsible Community
 - Tiffany Hebb will check her calendar for the dates in question – 9/26, 10/24 and 11/28.
3. Recommendations of six faculty members to the Community Standards Council
 - Anne will send out a call to the faculty list for both CSC volunteers and those willing to be in the pool for URC.
4. Internationalization issues
 - We need to look at quality of life issues, such as shuttles and activities for international students at DePauw.
 - CAPP is looking at curricular issues, and we may find some connections with them.
 - John Schomburg reports that the International Student Organization is planning more activities, such as weekend trips. John will alert the leader of the ISO that SLAAC is interested in hearing about the issues they've been having.
 - There will be a W workshop on teaching writing to non-native English speakers.
 - We discussed issues of special accommodations in class for international students, such as allowing dictionaries or extra time for exams. Do we need a formal policy related to this? We considered partnering with faculty development to have a teaching & learning roundtable about the topic, but decided to get as many people to attend the W workshop first and see what conversations still need to

happen. Anne will contact Mike Sinowitz to get the information about the workshop, and will also touch base with Rich Martoglio about any issues in Q, since a few students mentioned differences with regards to “British” calculus being different than what is practiced here.

5. Role of SLAAC in academic assessment.
 - Anne is meeting with Melanie Finney (chair of CAPP) about what our role in this will be.
6. Role of SLAAC in nationally competitive scholarships
 - Some colleges have a person who works full-time on this.
 - We will continue conversations about SLAAC’s role in making sure the process moves along logically.
 - Marnie will ask Kelley Hall to add the link to the website about the scholarships to her regular e-mail to academic advisors.
7. Plagiarism case in The DePauw
 - The student was dismissed from duty, and will not receive any academic credit.
 - We all agreed that the situation was handled properly, and that SLAAC did not need to be involved.
8. Scheduling training for URC
 - As most people need a refresher anyway, Marnie will just meet individually with SLAAC members who will chair hearings before their duty.
9. United DePauw motion on same-sex marriage
 - John described the motion that the Student Congress was considering.
 - He said that the goal was to formalize an institutional opinion and send it to the state legislature as a big “stamp” to show that, as a university, we do not support any resolutions that would define marriage as a man and a woman.
 - John said that the resolution had the endorsement of the student cabinet.
 - Tiffany said that she would look up what other universities have done about this.
 - SLAAC voted unanimously to bring the resolution from United DePauw to the next faculty meeting with our support.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Hebb

Student Life and Academic Atmosphere Committee MINUTES
Thursday, November 8, 2007
Julian 300

Present: Cindy Babington, Lynn Bedard, Angela Castañeda, Carla Edwards, Ophelia Goma, Peter Graham, Anne Harris (chair), Tiffany Hebb, and Alicia Keller (student member).

1. Introductions

- a. Meeting called to order at 4:10pm
- b. Minutes—Angela Castañeda

2. Wellness Initiative

- a. The role of the Wellness Committee was noted as an action committee created to look at a variety of proposals (for example, kickboxing classes and stress release activities such as massages during finals) as well as a place to centralize information on the wellness of students.

3. Subcommittee on Wellness

- a. The Subcommittee on Wellness will have its next meeting within the next month—led by Jana Grimes. This committee was noted as a policy committee to address issues for faculty, staff and students.

4. Food

- a. Anne Harris and Peter Graham met with Dick Speller on 11-7-07 to discuss food options on campus. The following information was gathered:
 - i. The Sodexho contract is up for renewal this winter.
 - ii. There are no plans for a bidding process (reasons why include: it takes 5 months and is very disruptive to the existing system/employees). Dick expressed a commitment by DePauw to renewing Sodexho's contract for an indeterminate number of years (1-10).
 - iii. DePauw's current contract with Sodexho includes \$50,000 for Sodexho to manage all of the food operations in the multiple sites on campus.
- b. SLAAC made the following suggestions in response to this meeting:
 - i. We need to define what we mean by "good" food.
 1. Anne will contact Jana Grimes and ask for a list/definition of good food to be used at the next Dec. 6th SLAAC meeting.
 - ii. Anne will email Dick Speller requesting a follow-up meeting with him at the Dec. 6th SLAAC meeting. She will also stress the importance of a short-term renewal contract (1 year) with Sodexho to allow us sufficient time to gather more information on food options as well as the connection between this issue and the AQUIP initiative.

- iii. The committee suggested involving other groups on campus, students and administrators.
 1. Peter suggested a story in The DePauw as well as a letter to the editor
 2. Alicia Keller will make an announcement at the next student congress meeting.
- c. Peter Graham will attend the webinar “Understanding Sustainable Dining Options” (organized by Steve Santo) on 11-14-07 from 1-2:30pm in the media classroom of the main library.

5. Coalition for a Responsible Community

- a. Lynn Bedard attended the October 24th meeting and reported:
 - i. It was a shorter meeting than usual due to the Governor’s visit to campus and thus Pres. Bottoms was not in attendance.
 - ii. Various committees reported:
 1. Alcohol Committee—data from the alcohol and drug survey will soon be available; There was also a discussion on the Pub in the Hub which students expressed support for due to its close location, creation of a social space and opportunity for faculty and staff to model responsible drinking.
 2. Hazing Subcommittee—in response to the National Hazing Study, DePauw will continue its participation with on-campus interviews on hazing.
- b. Tiffany Hebb will attend the next meeting.

6. United DePauw resolution

- a. The resolution was endorsed by the faculty 85 to 5 (with 4 abstentions). The main opposition involved faculty members who supported students but felt the faculty should not take a political stance; other issues discussed by faculty included social, civil and ethical rights. Howard Pollock created a similar petition with some word choice differences, which is available in East College for one week for faculty and staff to sign. This petition will be attached to the original and given to Brandon Monson by Anne.
- b. SLAAC agreed that our response to this should be a follow-up email to Brandon Monson congratulating him on this faculty endorsement.

7. Statement on the Academic Freedom of Students

- a. Neal Abraham gave this Statement on the Academic Freedom of Students to Anne; it is dated 1966.
- b. Anne asked that SLAAC members read this statement and come prepared to the next meeting with suggestions for changes/additions; The next step will be to work on making this document public (electronic).

Meeting ended at 5:15pm

Respectfully submitted, Angela Castañeda / November 11, 2007

Student Life and Academic Atmosphere Committee MINUTES
Thursday, December 13 2007 - Peeler 213

1. Introductions

- a. **taker of minutes for this meeting** - Anne Harris
- b. **in attendance:** Peter Graham, Tiffany Hebb, Cindy Babbington, Ophelia Goma, Dorian Shager, Alicia Keller (student member), Anne Harris (chair), Marnie McInnes

2. Letter to Dick Speller about Food Choice at DePauw

- a. **editing** – recommendation that we ask for higher percentages of locally grown and organic foods; specify that locally grown means within a 100-200 mile radius; add a bullet point about the Food Advisory Board (FAB); further specify all of the different reports that are coming in and consider consolidating those; request another food vendor bidding process since it will have been 8 years and departments so self-studies every 5 years; results of Student Congress Survey: 91% of student want more value for their money; 75% want more food options, 58% wish for more sustainability policies (like using dishes instead of paper/Styrofoam plates), and 34% were interested in a C-store in the Union; a need for a comprehensive student survey was expressed. All further editorial comments addressed the fine-tuning of language.
- b. **signing** – by the chair, on behalf of SLAAC
- c. **submitting** – early next semester, in the form of a letter to Dick Speller

3. 24h Julian

- a. **complaints** – reports vary as to whether or not students were throwing items from the upper balconies or simply studying.
- b. **resolution?** recommendation for the week before spring break – a permanent situation

4. Invitation to revisit the Statement on the Academic Freedom of Students

- a. **initial comments** – history of the document (1966) and its emergence in the midst of turmoil on campus.
- b. **procedure for rewriting** – it was decided by SLAAC that a great majority of the language of the 1966 Statement has been supplanted by both the DePauw Student Handbook and the DePauw Faculty Handbook. There was some discussion about IV.A. “Exercise Rights of Citizenship” and its “freedom of speech” mention, since students on campus can, in fact, be asked to remove t-shirts with offensive (racist, pornographica, and otherwise inappropriate) language and/or images.
- c. **procedure for submission to faculty** – none will be pursued, since the Statement’s concepts are adequately represented in the DePauw Handbooks.

Student Life & Academic Atmosphere Committee (SLAAC) Minutes

Thursday, February 14, 2008 – 4:00 p.m. – Peeler 213

Present: Cindy Babington, Lynn Bedard, Angela Castaneda, Carla Edwards, Ophelia Goma, Peter Graham (Chair), Anne Harris, Tiffany Hebb, Alycia Keller, Marnie McInnes

Meeting called to order at 4:05.

1. SLAAC representatives for Coalition for a Responsible Community – no SLAAC members were able to attend the March 5 and April 30 meetings, but Cindy Babington & John Schomburg both attend, and should be able to report back to SLAAC.
2. Food initiatives
 - a. Letter to Dick Speller -
 - i. Peter reported that the letter has been sent, with the following revisions from the draft letter:
 1. Definitions of “better food”
 - a. locally grown (within 200 miles of Greencastle).
 2. Higher percentages
 - a. Letter asked for 20% of food supply being locally grown within two years, and an additional 15% two years after that.
 - b. Letter asked for 20% of food supply be organic within two years, and another 15% two years after that.
 - ii. The committee members discussed ways to inform the rest of campus about this letter and initiative.
 1. Alycia will put it on the agenda for Student Congress for Sunday night, 2/17/08 as an informational item.
 2. Peter will get a copy of the letter to The DePauw, in case they're interested in following up with a story.
 3. Peter will send out the letter to the facultystaff mailing list on Monday 2/18, highlighting the fact that we're working in conjunction with the Local Food Initiative and Student Congress.
 - b. Cindy passed out a draft of a survey she wants to send to students, to get their input about food services and find out what the majority want. Cindy also asked for input on the questions from other SLAAC members by Monday, Feb. 18. Cindy believes that there needs to be an ad hoc committee (based out of Student Services) that pushes this process along and makes dining services accountable. SLAAC agreed. Cindy is willing to chair such a group, tentatively titled Dining Services Oversight Committee. Cindy has this idea on the agenda for the President's cabinet meeting on Monday, 2/18/08. The SLAAC members discussed the makeup of a group like this, and thought that the membership should include the following:
 - i. Cindy Babington
 - ii. Two representatives from SLAAC

- iii. A representative from the Food Advisory Board (FAB)
 - iv. A representative from the Local Food Initiative (Tim Martin's group)
 - v. Steve Santo
3. Climbing Wall – last year, a DePauw student (now an alum) wrote a detailed proposal for a climbing wall to be installed at DePauw. Although the committee members did not think this was within the purview of SLAAC, a couple members thought the idea of a climbing wall was attractive and fit in with overall health initiatives (and AQIP) that are being pursued at DePauw. If the climbing wall idea could be somehow linked to the likely renovations to the Lilly Center in the future, then it might be an even more attractive choice. Peter will forward the proposal to Page Cotton, Cindy Babington, Pat Babington and Lisa Hollander (in case this is something an alumnus might be interested in funding).
4. Athletic Board
- a. Is a subcommittee of SLAAC
 - b. Until last semester, the Athletic Board hadn't met more than once or twice in about 10 years
 - c. The AAUP document "The Role of the Faculty in the Governance of College Athletics (1989)" was discussed
 - d. A faculty member has brought up the possibility of setting minimum GPA for athletes.
 - i. The committee members were concerned about this. At least one coach had brought up concerns about recruitment to Peter.
 - ii. The Athletic Board could look at eligibility requirements, such as not being able to participate if on academic probation, if appropriate.
 - iii. The AB could also investigate and report back to SLAAC on the upcoming NCAA talks on whether to split Division III into two divisions.
 - e. The SLAAC members present believe that there's an important role for the Athletic Board to fill, and that there should be a faculty member as chair. Peter is going to e-mail the faculty on the Athletic Board and ask them to convene and elect a chair within the next two weeks.
5. Cindy said that representatives of Panhellenic Council and the Interfraternity Council would like to meet with SLAAC. She will forward the names to Peter, so that he can invite them to a meeting.
6. Peter asked about the status of the document from the 1960s on academic freedom of students. The group believed that we decided to let this document die, since most of the relevant portions are covered in more depth in other resources, such as the Student Handbook.
7. Next meeting: Thursday, February 28 at 4:00 p.m. in Peeler 213

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Hebb

Student Life & Academic Atmosphere Committee (SLAAC) Minutes Thursday, April 10, 2008 – 4:00 p.m. – Peeler 213

Present: Angela Castaneda, Carla Edwards, Ophelia Goma, Peter Graham (Chair), Anne Harris, Tiffany Hebb, Alycia Keller, Marnie McInnes, and Dorian Shager. Visitors present were: Tim Martin and Jeanette Renshaw (Local Food Initiative) and Sue Murray (Mayor of Greencastle).

Meeting called to order at 4:05.

1. SLAAC representatives for Coalition for a Responsible Community – Anne Harris tentatively volunteered to attend the April 30th lunch meeting.
2. Peter Graham reported that the Dining Services Oversight Committee met earlier in the day.
 - a. Tim Martin reported about the history of the Local Food Initiative. It began as a Compton Center project to try to get more locally grown food. They have met with Sodexho and many local farmers over the past couple of years. This year, they're focusing on communicating with administrators and trustees on the issues.
 - i. They're making recommendations to trustees that there should be a full-time staff person who manages local food issues.
 - ii. The biggest barriers are related to planning ahead (so farmers can grow the quantity we'd need) and the costly insurance requirement that Sodexho has in place.
3. Sue Murray, Mayor of Greencastle spoke with the group.
 - a. Food issues:
 - i. Tim Martin asked Murray about the possibility of a collaborative town/campus farm. Murray reported that Brett Mischler in Owen County has just begun a community farm initiative, called the Field of Boaz. People have responded with interest, money, and equipment.
 - ii. Murray reported that she knew there were local farmers interested in supplying DePauw. Martin acknowledged that, but said that the insurance has been a big prohibitive factor so far. Martin suggested that a local grower's guild (like that in Bloomington) would help give the farmers a more united voice with which to negotiate with Sodexho.
 - iii. Jeanette Renshaw said that Sodexho is signing a new contract with another institution where they're subsidizing the insurance requirement, so there is now some precedent for Sodexho making concessions on that front.
 - iv. Murray mentioned that there are a number of local restaurants that purchase locally, and that Main Street Greencastle wants to get WIC vouchers accepted at the farmer's market. Murray also reported that Main Street is trying to find a Market Master. That person might be able to work with DePauw.
 - b. Other Greencastle issues:
 - i. Murray reported that she has plans to improve the appearance of downtown Greencastle, to make it more appealing. She's working to get new benches, trashcans, lights, pavers, poles, plants, etc. to create a consistency in downtown. She would like to get banners (similar to the ones we use on campus for events) to welcome people to town, but we would need to buy the

correct kinds of light poles first. She's hopeful that the property owners would pick up the regular upkeep with an assessment.

- ii. Murray wants to work with local industry. She feels like the Plainfield and airport development can be good for growth in Greencastle. Have to find new ways to work with small business, since tax abatement isn't really working any more. She's hopeful about partnering with DePauw on entrepreneurial issues. The new Ivy Tech campus will help in creating a trained workforce. She would like to increase the use of swipe cards off campus, to get more student business in local restaurants.
- iii. Murray reported on the Greencastle Home Town Alliance report, which is available online at <http://gogreencastle.com>. She said that the next step is to pull groups together to talk about these ideas. She's planning a community forum on August 12th, in which she'll bring together representatives from a lot of different constituent groups.
- iv. When asked about the bookstore possibility downtown, Murray reported that Follett won the bid to provide bookstore for the Ivy Tech campus, so there wouldn't be a joint Barnes & Noble store downtown. However, the bookstore downtown is still a possibility.
- v. Graham asked Murray what SLAAC should include about town-gown issues, in a letter to the incoming president, Brian Casey. Murray suggested that the swipe cards are a big priority, and the bookstore downtown. Graham suggested DePauw subsidizing better movies at Ashley Square Cinema as an additional point.

Student Life & Academic Atmosphere Committee (SLAAC) Minutes
Thursday, February 28, 2008 4:00pm Peeler 213

Present: Cindy Babington, Lynn Bedard, Angela Castañeda, Carla Edwards, Ophelia Goma, Peter Graham (chair), Tiffany Hebb, Alycia Keller, Marnie McInnes, John Schomburg, Dorian Shager

Meeting called to order at 4:03pm

1. Angela Castañeda volunteered to serve as secretary and record meeting minutes.
 2. SLAAC minutes approved by the committee from the Dec. 13th and Feb. 14th meetings.
 3. Cindy Babington reported that the Oversight Committee is proceeding forward—
 - a. Requires 2 SLAAC members: Peter Graham and Ophelia Gomez volunteered
 - b. Also in need of 2 student government representatives
 4. Steve Santo will attend the March 13th SLAAC meeting. He will address: how does Sodexo plan to make target benchmarks and how he will work with the Oversight Committee.
 5. SLAAC is still waiting for a reply from Dick Speller regarding our letter on food at DePauw
 - a. Peter will wait 2 weeks and then contact him; invite him to come to the first April SLAAC meeting.
 6. Tim Martin of the Compton Center will be invited (by Peter) to the March 13th SLAAC meeting (along with Steve Santo)
 7. An update on the Athletic Board was discussed:
 - a. The Athletic Board met for the first time this semester this past Monday Feb. 25th. Pam Propsom chaired this meeting and has agreed to chair the next meeting as well—at which time sufficient faculty members will be in attendance to take a formal vote on the committee chair.
 - b. SLAAC has asked the Athletic Board to meet 3 times this semester and report back to SLAAC on such issues as: Student absences, travel obligations and missed exams due to athletic obligations.
 8. Other Business
 - a. Peter is still waiting to hear from the Panhel and IFC presidents who plan to attend a future SLAAC meeting to talk about greek life.
 - b. URC update—Marnie advised SLAAC that there will most likely be several meetings possibly towards the end of this semester. URC requires the chair of the meetings be a current or former SLAAC faculty member (also a faculty member with teaching responsibilities)
 - c. John Schomburg informed SLAAC about a recent website active for the past week: realdepauw.com where people could post comments anonymously—this website was shut down today after several inappropriate comments were posted. John expressed the frustration felt by many students who feel much programming and energy is devoted to issues of cultural sensitivity, however, these comments still emerge. The suggestion for a diversity competency requirement (similar to W, Q or S) was discussed—SLAAC agreed that this idea should be brought to the attention of CAPP as a student request.
 - d. SLAAC will present an update at the next faculty meeting on: food discussions, athletic board and the Oversight Committee.
 9. Next meeting: March 13th
- Meeting adjourned at 4:35pm

SLAAC minutes – 3/13/08

Peter Graham, Tiffany Hill, Alecia Keller, Anne Harris, Linda Dart, Ophelia Goma, Jeannette Renshaw, Dorian Shager, Marnie McInnes

Guest Steve Santo from Sodexo

Minutes were approved from the previous meeting.

Announcement: Cindy Babington is sending out a dining survey after break, since Steve Santo is sending out a survey now.

Steve Santo from Sodexo (dining services) met with SLAAC to discuss dining service issues with the committee. Following were some of the main points of discussion:

- Piazza Produce is main distributor for us and for the state of Indiana
Piazza is hoping to hire someone to purchase local produce – organic food
Steve mentioned trying to work with local growers (such as Kathy Stamper), but sometimes it has been difficult to find them or there are other difficulties. There is not a lot of small farms in the area.
- Steve brought a sustainability brochure which describes:
Prairie Farms Dairy – are products free from chemicals? They say so, but labels don't support this point.
Scholars Inn – local in Bloomington for our bagels etc.
Klosterman's (bread) –
Piazza Produce
BnF Sushi – makes sushi in house (also does IUPUI and Butler)
- After Spring break, dining services will be using washable plates and silverware. The hub wasn't built for this so they are making changes.
They are also starting a compostable program to take care of food waste – discussing how to educate DePauw about what will be compostable (Green Products from Gordon Food Service)
Cost is an issue though.
Some students from the Compton Center take left over food Sunday through Wednesday evening to community center to be reused by students who study there. This started in fall 07 but not a lot of students are at the community center, so the food might still go to waste. However it is still a good project
- DePauw Dining Services (DDS) – is starting a Sustainability Newsletter (spring 2008)
This will contain information about how to compost and what works well for composting.
- DDS uses recyclable cups (over 1600 since 2003). They also switched to ecologo certified napkins which are 100% recycled.
- DDS recycles leftover grease, but not setting up a program to have grease turned into bio-diesel. DDS currently uses zero trans fat fryer oils (for 2 ½ years)

- DDS switched to eco friendly green chemicals last summer (Ecolab) - these doesn't clean as well and are more expensive, but they are an effort to be more environmentally conscious.
- Other items in the packet which Steve brought to SLAAC – a trash container design chart, ecotainer brochure, seafood watch, Gordon food service pamphlet (where many of our products come from)

Questions for Steve:

What about meats purchased for DePauw?

They come through Gordon's but Gordon's gets them from other companies: Coch (chicken), Pork (farmland industries).

What about using local meats?

There are several problems when considering purchasing meat: insurance, distribution, and volume – can they supply us on a regular basis?

Wabash is able to do this so why can't we?

They have to meet our parameters.

But if Moody Meats, up the road, satisfies Bon Appetit's parameters, why can't we also get meat locally? Moody Meats provides over 50% of the beef to Wabash?

Is it possible to make changes specific to DePauw even if other schools Sodexo services aren't on board with this?

Yes

Why do local meat providers have higher insurance costs especially when there is less chance of contamination on local farms rather than large scale meat processing plant?

Why can't someone from Sodexo procure some of these things like Bon Appetit does (at Wabash)?

Procurement director is from Brownsburg Indiana. We would have to work through the director but it is possible.

Bon Appetit has the Oberlin account and invests in local and university farms. Is that possible for us? It might improve Town and gown relations?

Most farmers grow based on income...corn, soy beans, shrimp (!) and not on our needs.

What happened to the Duck? The food isn't as good, it doesn't have as varied a menu The Prindle Institute is good food....

Two West – great space but the food isn't as good – they wanted to make the Duck more like a pub and take the food menu from the Hub and put it on the Two West menu.

Steve can pass these comments on to David Collier (Sodexo Conference Services).

Tell us about the survey...is it just for students or faculty?

It is a paper survey because the university won't let Sodexo put it on line. The survey is about food quality, service, cleanliness, etc

Longdon has become more take out, eat to go – business has gone up since it isn't a traditional cafeteria.

Steve will share information with us from the survey results

Art Sheerwood –
Farm on campus????

Is there was a Sodexo employee that can make everything easier in terms of making all the contacts?

SLAAC discussed a time frame for getting more local and organic foods into the dining halls. SLAAC wants 20% and 15% respectively. Can Sodexo do this?

Steve said probably not.

Jeannette Renshaw: When changes do come, will Sodexo lower the insurance rates for local producers? This will get more producers to come on board.

Steve Santo hopes that rates will be lowered.

JR: What about approaching more farmers in the area, more producers?

SS: I'd like a student to do this. Somebody like you, Jeannette.

PG: That's not a student's job, Steve. That should be Sodexo's job. Bon Appetit has somebody do this for them. We shouldn't pass this job off on a student. Besides, there is no continuity then, for students graduated.

Ophelia Goma: How does Sodexo market good food to campus.

SS: The Web site, Wellness Fair, posters when we can.

OG: What has been the vegan and vegetarian interest of the students?

SS: A small group has been very vocal, but the general interest hasn't been as high. Perhaps only 12-15 people a night choose the vegan option. Plus I'm getting some negative feedback to the vegan options. 2 complaints written by the same student probably today...Vegan and vegetarian food doesn't last as long and it's harder to keep fresh.

JR: The vegan soups are delicious. I eat them every day.

Other members of SLAAC applauded delicious vegan soups.

JR mentioned a vegan food company that could come into DPU and educate students on vegan cooking, vegan food options.

SS mentioned a vegan cookbook: Vegan with a Vengeance.

The conversation came back to the benchmarks that SLAAC wants Sodexo to meet within two years.

SS: It will be tough to meet these. Especially if “local” means foods within 200 miles.

PG: What if we said that “local” was food from Indiana and contiguous states?

SS: That would be much better. We might be able to do that. Michigan has a lot of producers.

PG brought back discussion to Wabash and Bon Appetit. If Wabash has over 50% of their beef coming from 10 miles away, why can't we buy this meat too?

SS seemed to suggest that this was Sodexo's policy. Food needed to go through Sodexo channels and vendors. They were working to get more local food, but it was a slow process.

SS: Everybody I talk to says we (at DePauw dining services) are ahead of the curve.

PG: I'm not sure I believe that. If you are ahead of the curve, then why do schools like Wabash and Oberlin and Middlebury have as much as 35-50% local and organic food, and we have hardly any?

SS mentions the grapes Sodexo gets from Chile—“they're delicious, but they're not local.” He mentioned peaches too.

PG: The Chilean peaches aren't delicious, no.

PG: Has there been a contract signed yet between you and DPU?

SS: It's being negotiated now.

There was some talk about DPU starting a community and campus farm. SLAAC discussed this option that most people thought was a good idea. A campus farm would probably be best, including people from Greencastle to help manage it and work it, especially in the summer months.

PG announced the next meeting after spring break (April 10) and thanked Steve Santo for coming to the meeting and answering our questions.

Submitted by Carla Edwards and Peter Graham