

Kresge Parliament – 11/8/12

Start: 6:30pm Quorum:17 Intros only: Name, major, grade, position in Parliament

Guest: College Administrative Officer – Mike Yamauchi-Gleason

- Prop 30 passed (hooray)! Mike has stopped sharpening his budget pencil!
- The Naked Man fell off the wall in September and is currently in storage. Looking into repair.
- AOD Transports- down this year - only 3 between Kresge/Porter (last year = 20). Judicial cases are running about the same number as last year.
- Major renovation is planned for Kresge but no date set yet.. Kresge can only accommodate 300 Frosh (and this year we have 280) but the goal is to be able to take 350. There will be a focus on increasing/improving theme housing.

Q & A

- What is going on to educate community about compostables from Owl's Nest Café?
The café is working on issue – Foodie (student staffer) is also aware of issue
 - Redwood Grove – ever be Kresge East again?
Is being reorganized again from upper classman housing but not coming back to Kresge
 - Will retrofit of Kresge include ADA compliance?
Yes, ADA is law and is required, will get student input on new design for college.
 - What other future improvements for the college?
Work towards identity for the college since Dept. offices moved out to Humanities Themed Housing is a goal , Alumni outreach-fundraising, Better communication between the “clicks” at Kresge – e.g. – Food Co-op, Garden Co-op, World Café, KMEC, Writers' House, Parliament, Music Co-op etc. Would also be nice to have a lawn area.
- Parliament does have a Swing Force Committee that is working to build a meeting place in the Kresge Meadow –recommended is the construction of a multiple swing set for adults.

Guest: Dining Services, Director Scott Berlin, Café Manager Jeff Wildenboer:

1st and foremost - The Owl's Nest is here to stay and will not be closing despite any rumors. Regardless, it is a business and all efforts are being made to be successful with the new menu. Combined Dining Svcs. budget does directly affect the board + room rates annually. A new concept for the café came after surveys were done last year to determine needs/wants. Income was also down, the Owl being at the bottom of campus income. Panda Express is the fastest growing food chain on college campus and UCSC did not have an Asian food offering. Science Hill especially expressed interest in Asian food. Additional background – Dining Svcs. serves 25,000. meals per day campus wide – campus cafeterias/cafes nationally are not a profit making business but convenience is the biggest selling point. So decision was made to copy Panda Express model – a successful clone - the goal. Crepes and smoothies were added from student input for breakfast offerings. Still a work in progress, tweaking going on but now there are no lines, efficiency is way up and we are looking to bundle food for the \$8. Flexi swipe.

Floor is open to comments/questions

- The two top selling crepes are savory, however, is this because there are limited options for other savory foods? We would like a way to bundle food to make it easier to use our meal plans. Is Boba a possibility - only available to order online and Dining Services has not had good experiences in making the pearls in bulk. Issue of freshness: the food is NOT pre-made despite rumors and they did just change the beef vendor for better quality meat. They do need to focus on improving what they already have instead of focusing on bringing in new items. Developing a solid identity for the Owl's Nest campus wide. Maybe advertising the The Owl's Nest as a food court to clarify the diverse menu. Changing the new logos to look less like something that was done by a franchise. Reformatting the menu to clearly

include daily specials. Passing out surveys to people who live directly around the Owl's Nest? Staying open later or on weekends. More Vegan and Vegetarian options need to be offered – new emphasis on Meatless Mondays becoming a part of the menu. Need one item that people would come across campus to buy, something not found anywhere else (Boba). Changing the crepe menu so that it is a list of ingredients that you can pull from to build your own crepe as opposed to a the set options.

In closing – we hear your concerns and we do have a desire to please the students – please give us time. We did add another crepe maker (3) and bought a new espresso coffee machine. We are looking at appetizers like won tons. Using more organic ingredients. We will be happy to come back to Parliament anytime.

Guest: Dining Sustainability Intern - Victoria: Seeking support on getting people aware of the fact that at the Owls Nest uses compostable supplies and compostables/food scrapes go in separate green containers. Feel free to contact her directly with suggestions/comments: vsalas@ucsc.edu

Parliament Outreach

We are tabling at the dining hall next week and the concert is Friday 11/16. Please everyone take 10 raffle tickets and a flyer and sign up for shifts on the two Doodles. Ticket holders do not need to be present to win. Money and ticket stubs need to be back before concert at 10 p.m. Friday.

Budget Request next week: Inviting Cruz Fit to present. Lucas motions, Lyle 2nds, 11 hoots = Approved

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15 pm