

UA Recommendations:

Inclusivity at Penn Through Eat & Greet Initiative

47th Session 2019 - 2020

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BACKGROUND

Overview

Across Penn there has been a general push to enhance Penn inclusivity for all faculty, students, and across all Penn departments. Issues of the Penn face, dining hall isolation, and fear of being alone are all prevalent today on Penn's campus and have repeatedly been brought forward to the Undergraduate Assembly over the past year. The ultimate goal of this initiative is to create a more inclusive environment on campus for all students and faculty.

Current Status

The University of Pennsylvania offers a wide variety of programs in the dining halls. KCECH, Hill, and Lauder are the only dining halls on campus that provide Eat & Greet signs available to anyone. These signs are green stands that people can take as they sit down. Putting a green flag up means that anyone is welcome to come and sit over. It is a great initiative to bring Penn students randomly together and to avoid provoking the fear of sitting alone in the dining halls.

Undergraduate Assembly Updates

The Undergraduate Assembly has met with Benoit Dube (Chief Wellness Officer), Erika N. Gross (Director of Finance, Administration & Risk Management), William Hess (Resident District Director), and Pamela Lampitt (director of Business and & Hospitality Services) at the "Next Steps Meeting." The meeting concluded with the faculty confirming to fund 100% of E&G endeavors, particularly providing meal vouchers to upperclass students who volunteer to reach out to students in the dining halls.

UA RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations & Proposal

The Undergraduate Assembly recommends the following in order to address inclusivity at Penn and create a more welcoming environment in the dining halls:

- 1. Expand inclusive opportunities and programs in the Commons, Houston Hall, Pret, Hill, and other local areas where students eat.
- 2. Continue to provide funding for Eat & Greet so that they can continue to pursue their cause.
- 3. Be willing to support E&G and UA collaborations to promote outreach and inclusivity at Penn by supporting possible initiatives that may need further funding, social media highlights, and faculty support.