STEM Students are hungry too!

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Meet The Team!

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Our Motivation

1. The importance of food for mental health, physical health, and academic success.

1. We have struggled with food accessibility while at school due to:
   a. Lack of proximity of dining to STEM buildings.
   b. Many dining locations being closed when long and late labs/classes conclude.
   c. Lack of options.

1. We wanted to use this opportunity to make a change for STEM students.
An Overview:

1. The Problem
   There is a lack of food accessible on near President’s Circle

2. Data
   Going over the survey we distributed and its results.

3. Talking to the experts
   Discussing what the experts had to say.

4. Solutions
   What we think the U could do to improve its food accessibility.
We Conducted A Survey!

- The survey was distributed in classes, by word of mouth, and through posters displayed in various STEM buildings.
- The survey was open for 3 weeks between March and April.
- We had 148 total respondents, 130 of which were STEM students.
Dining Locations - The Relationship to STEM Buildings
Students That Took The Survey

- 87% were STEM majors.
- 68% do not have a meal plan.
- 65% do not live on campus.
Satisfaction

We found an overall dissatisfaction with the food options on campus.
Students’ Typical Food Choice

- Buy Food From On Campus Locations: 63%
- Bring Food From Home: 47%
- Off Campus Locations: 18%
- Food Trucks: 16%
- Do Not Eat: 15%

Students could select multiple options during this portion of the survey!
Most STEM students feel that there are some limitations that affect their food accessibility on campus.
How many meals a week do students buy food on campus? (Including Meal Plan Purchases)

- The majority of students buy between 1-3 meals on campus.
- This may be due to lack of accessibility.
How much time does it take to commute and get food?

- The majority of students say it takes more than 10 minutes to get food on campus.
- Only about 22% of students can get food in less than 10 minutes when the break between classes is often 15-25 minutes.
How much a student is willing to spend eating on campus per meal?

- Students are more willing to spend money for meals on campus if they are less than $10.
- Keeping price affordable and low is very important to students.
Meeting with David Ko
Associate Director for Dining Services

What We Talked About!
● Discussed the role Chartwells plays in campus dining.

● We expressed how we as STEM students find it hard to access food close to President’s Circle.

Solutions We Discussed With David
● Bringing food trucks to President’s Circle.

● The higher the demand for food with expansion of students on campus, the more food options will be added.
  - creating student boards to get student input.

● Continuing the dialog between students and decision makers
  - suggestions, concerns, etc.
Meeting with Jim Muller  
Executive Director of Facilities Management  
College Of Science  

- Atmospheric science and physics are moving buildings.  
- Discussed the possibility of food options to The William Stewart Building for Applied Sciences.  
  - He told us it was planned that a small coffee cart is being added that can be taken outside on nice days.  
- Implementing food in the new Life Sciences Building.  
  - The future of possibly involving more student voices through focus groups.

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Summary of Challenges

Separate Contractors
Different food locations are contracted by different colleges across campus.

Lacking Residential Demand
Near President’s Circle, there is no residential housing. This decreases demand during the weekend. There is a higher future demand as the campus population grows.

High Food Prices
Food in general is very expensive so the school has to find a balance between satisfying students needs while also making a profit.
Solutions To Implement

- Voice concerns to staff, they want to know what they can improve!
- Encouraging leaders to be open and listen to students
- Putting a food option into the new Life Sciences Building
- Adding Food Trucks near President’s Circle
- Creating Student Boards
Thank you to those who helped make this project successful!

- Our Professors: Claudia, Rodolfo, and Jordan
- Our Learning Assistant Jess
- David Ko
- Jim Muller
- Our Classmates
Ask Us Questions!

We have learned a lot from this project and cannot fit this all in 15 minutes. We would love to talk to you all more about this topic!