



Agenda Items

1. Texts.com Presentation
2. Dining Task Force Discussion
3. Yale-Harvard Party Responsibilities
4. Petitions for Associate Membership
5. Reminders

Attendance

| | | | | |
|----|--------------------|---|-----------------|---|
| BK | Diksha Brahmabhatt | x | Joseph English | x |
| BK | Ethan Young | x | Madeline Bauer | x |
| BR | Mollie Johnson | E | Amour Alexandre | x |
| BR | Shannon Flores | E | Daniel Tovbin | E |
| CC | Michael Yuan | x | Sammy Bensinger | x |
| CC | Luis Patiño | x | Josh Hochman | x |
| DC | Joseph Cornett | x | Megan Ruan | x |
| DC | Daniel Hamidi | x | Joel Bervell | x |
| ES | Sydney Wade | x | Maya Sweedler | E |
| ES | Joseph Tomchak | x | Phan Nguyen | x |
| JE | Benjamin Held | x | Alex Cruz | E |
| MC | Kevin Sullivan | x | | |
| MC | Carter Henschien | x | | |
| PC | Lauren Sapienza | x | | |
| PC | Sofia Braunstein | x | | |
| SY | Christopher Bowman | x | | |
| SY | Avery Thompson | x | | |
| SM | Katherine Oh | x | | |
| SM | Peter Huang | x | | |
| TD | Joshua McGilvray | x | | |
| TC | Devyn Rigsby | x | | |
| TC | Shah Kahn | U | | |

Minutes

Please note that the minutes reflect the conversation held during the Council of Representatives meeting, but may not contain every comment and are not intended to reflect exact quotations. Comments in italics are notes to give context to the minutes. The layout of the minutes is the Presentation of the Issue, Presentation of the Discussion, and Recording of the Vote. Unless otherwise noted, the Presentation of the Issue is done by the person whose name is next to the heading for that issue. Comments by representatives or other attendees are preceded by their name (e.g. Jane: comment).

Texts.com

Presentation by Walker (Texts.com employee):

- Student textbook exchange, unified on one platform
- They help student governments host their own exchanges
- Free for students and for organizations
- If you can't find a deal on campus, Texts.com compares retailers and finds the lowest possible price
- Student listings always pop up first
- Users have to authenticate themselves with yale.edu accounts
- They try to identify the midpoint where seller earns more and buyer spends less than on other websites
- They handle all the technical stuff and can offer assistance but really our job is to get the word out (emails, social media, flyers around campus, dorm storming, tabling, etc.)
- They will send kits with tablecloth, banners, handouts, etc.
- The reason they partner with student governments is because it is our job to respond to student issues

Questions:

- Phan: Would you be counting on us to put up the banners and stuff or would there be logistical help?
 - They will provide the materials but they don't have bodies on the ground to put them up so that would be our job
 - We could send an all campus email which would lead to a huge burst in usage
 - A good first step is to get the members of YCC to sign up and list some books ourselves to begin to populate the site
- Ethan: Does Texts.com only support ISBN verified books, or could we put course packets up?
 - It is possible to put non-ISBN verified books but it's slightly trickier
 - Working on making it easier to do
- Larry: What about expensive books that aren't necessarily textbooks?
 - You can put up anything with an ISBN, including non-textbooks
- Carter: What was our relationship with Texts.com in the past?
 - Last year, we worked together
 - The goal is to keep the partnership alive
- Maddie: How was the usage last year?

- There were 1,000-1,500 Yale students, 1,000 listings, 200+ completed transactions
- That's great but it could be so much bigger and more helpful now
- Diksha: Are you only looking at undergrads or the entire university?
 - Anyone with yale.edu can join the network, but we have the most success going to undergrad student governments

VOTE TO SUPPORT TEXTS.COM: PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT

Dining Task Force Discussion

Do you know about Yale's continuous swipe policy? If so, can you explain it?

- Consensus: Almost no one knows what it is.
- Carter: Yes. I can go at the beginning of dinner time in Berkeley and leave immediately and go swipe at any other residential college during that dinner time slot.
- Kevin: The policy is that even after swiping in for dinner in one dining hall, you can still swipe into dinner in other dining halls during that timeslot. This applies for all meals and all dining halls. The only things you can't do is swipe in a dining hall and then re-use that swipe at Durfee's or swipe in the same dining hall twice. Everyone can feel free to test it.

Do you know about the meal review system on Dining's website? If so, have you ever used it?

- Consensus: Almost no one knows what it is.
- Carter: Yes. Basically you can give feedback to Dining. For example, I told them I would like more wheat bread at Morse.
- Phan: What about sack lunches?
- Kevin: Those should exist in every dining hall.
- Phan: I've tried this, and some dining staffers don't know. We should communicate it better.
- Diksha: The sack lunch does indeed count as your lunch swipe.

Which meal plan do you use? How satisfied are you with it?

- Larry: I know that all freshmen get the full one, but I did want to bring up that I don't always eat three meals a day. I think you get like 100 Durfee points or something a semester and I think those are grossly inadequate (this is the Dining 14 plan with a bizarre equivalency rate).
- Michael: For \$75, you can add on to the full meal plan and I thought that was for getting unlimited swipes. But if continuous swipes exists for everyone, what is that extra \$75 for?
- Kate: Is the full meal plan the cheapest rate? Why can't there be a cheaper 14 meal plan with no Durfee points? People feel like they are losing their money if they aren't using every swipe, which almost promotes overeating because you are trying to get your money's worth.
- Devyn: If people know they aren't going to use a specific meal swipe (if they are going to be out of town or go out to dinner), it'd be great if there was a way to donate those swipes.
- Sammy: I'm on the off campus meal plan and it's great and convenient. It would be better if everyone (not only people using off campus) could use it.
- Diksha: Maybe we can consider at least adding the off campus meal plan for people in

Swing who have kitchens, or anyone in annexed housing.

Do you ever miss a meal? What gets in the way?

- Amour: All of last year, I missed every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday lunch because I had back to back to back classes.
- Sydney: Most days I miss breakfast so that's a swipe I don't use because I have class. I could get breakfast on Tuesdays and Thursdays, but I usually don't wake up early enough. It feels like the money I paid for that is going down the drain.
- Katherine: I always miss breakfast because I'm not up early enough for it before my 9:00 am class, but after class there isn't enough time before lunch.
- Josh: On weekdays, it would be really useful to have a brunch.
- Megan: It would be really nice for breakfast and lunch to have to-go containers.
- Kevin: We are working on making sure to-go options exist and are as sustainable as possible.
- Phan: To go options would be really helpful.
- Sydney: My friend brought Tupperware and the workers said she couldn't bring food out in the Tupperware.
- Amour: In the regulations, it's stipulated that you can be ExCommed for taking anything beyond the minimum.
- Andrew: On Fridays, I usually have no lunch break.
- Joel: Friday dinners are shorter than usual so if you can't get there before 7, that's really problematic.
- Josh: If you go to KBT, you have a \$4 swipe for breakfast, which is less money than typical breakfast costs...do I still get charged \$8 that breakfast is even though I can only use \$4 of stuff?

Do you use the Yale Dining app? How do you feel about it in its current state?

- Diksha: I can't see what time breakfast ends!
- Sofia: One time I got really excited about a certain soup that they didn't have, so making sure things are accurate is important.
- Joseph: There are also times where it is completely inaccurate and you realize not a single thing listed is actually there, and that is really problematic.
- Kate: I really like how the app lists food without allergens, but sometimes it's not accurate or people aren't aware of cross contamination and that is also problematic.
- Joshua: Late commons is a struggle because you read the app and then show up and all they have is rice.

Do you believe that Dining provides you with healthy food options? (e.g. salad bars, vegetable options, desserts)

- Maddie: One thing I think is good are the vegetable options, but sometimes they aren't even that healthy.
- Sofia: One of my issues is a lot of time, I don't like what they offer and go to the salad bar but stuff in salad bar is empty.
- Andrew: This might just be me but it seems like healthy options are there but variety isn't, so if you want a healthy meal you have to eat same thing meal after meal.
- Joshua: I need to eat like 4 kilos of salad for it to be enough.
- Sammy: I definitely agree with Sofia. You can only really do salad bar if you go at 5:00 or 5:30 because otherwise, they run out. I would also love to see more consistency in

salad offerings and the introduction of salad-sized bowls.

- Josh: More bowls in general.
- Daniel: I would love some more salad bar offerings, maybe including fruit.
- Sydney: Sometimes the salad bar is the only healthy thing in the dining hall. I wish the yogurt was less sugary.
- Rayan: Maybe we can also get healthier beverage options.

Is there anything you want from Dining that is not already in place? Do you have other any suggestions for dining?

- Lauren: Omelet bar.
- Joe: Maybe three days a week, the colleges without hot breakfast could have an omelet bar. Also, they tell us all dining halls are the same in terms of quality but really they aren't. We should be able to rate the quality of the food quantitatively to compare across dining halls.
- Meg: That could be something added to the app where there is a quantifiable way to see which is highest rated.
- Amour: I hate family dinner and end up eating out on Sundays.
- Joel: I love family dinner. They should be able to set it up so if you ever miss a meal, it automatically goes to a good cause (like YHHAP fast).
- Josh: They are really slow on burgers. It would be great to always have burgers and chicken pre-made and available.
- Diksha: As a vegan, I don't get the point of hot breakfast because I can't eat anything except lousy potatoes so vegan pancakes would be great. I appreciate the new vegan dessert thing but maybe something a little healthier would be better.
- Sammy: I'd like to see more cut fruit (like what Trumbull has during brunch), or more fruit in general.
- Sydney: More consistency on the blender policy.