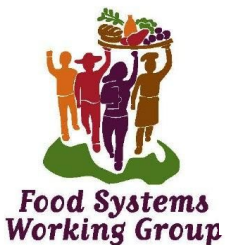




Re-Envisioning A Space for Community and Student Success: Establishing a Basic Needs Café @ Cowell College

Winter 2018

*A proposal for collaboration toward student
health, wellness, and success*



UCSC Cowell Café Basic Needs Hub Proposal Winter 2018

Introduction:

At present UCSC students, staff, and faculty in conjunction with community partners have facilitated a multi-year effort to increase food and housing security for UCSC students. Drawing from systemwide student surveys (i.e. UCUES, Costs of Attendance Survey, Graduate Well-Being Survey, etc) coupled with UCSC student led focus group and stakeholder analysis the broad based needs for access to healthy food and technical support to support challenges to navigating the *Costs of Attendance* (i.e. everything outside of tuition—housing, food, cell phone bills, etc.) has been established. Through a statewide network of support coupled with a range of student focused programming, needs based evaluation, and policy changes on campus Slugs are informing exciting collaborations to increase food security, financial literacy, housing/rent preparedness, and more! Based on student interest and feedback there is an opportunity to consider establishing an integrated space of learning, nourishment, and ongoing services for students while carrying a “Café” style ethos at Cowell College. This proposal introduces a Basic Needs Hub Café Concept that can serve Cowell student needs while providing a safe and enriching space for our collective student community.

Cowell Café Basic Needs Hub Project Proposal Details:

- **Overview:** Currently the UCSC Food Access and Basic Needs Working Group has developed a multi-year plan and annual impact reporting process that empowers students, staff, and faculty to work across a number of activities that directly respond to and benefit students with resources drawn from external funding sources combined with existing allocations on campus. Attached you will find the 2016-2017 Impact Report (*Appendix A*) as well as our Implementation Plan for 2017-2018 (*Appendix B*) and our Jan-June 2018 SB85 (State Funding) Activity Reporting Matrix (*Appendix C*). In summary through state and systemwide funding we have established a field to student plate and pocket scope of services that have already supported over 3,000 students at UCSC. A significant partner on student food access and basic needs, Colleges, Housing and Educational Services (CHES) and UCSC Dining, has demonstrated substantial support in our collective work. Over the past few years CHES has established a non-stigmatizing meal voucher program that allows Slug Support to transfer meal vouchers directly onto student IDs in order that they can access dining halls without needing a meal plan. At present the “Slugs for Swipes” program has provided over 10,000 meals to students in need with peer donation opportunities each quarter. Further, Bill Prime, UCSC Dining Director is committed to partnering to expand food recovery and donations to the SUA and Slug Support pantry to complement food available for students in need. In addition, AVC Sue Matthews has encouraged her unit leadership to work across

UCSC Cowell Café Basic Needs Hub Proposal Winter 2018

food access efforts as well as explore housing programs. Housing access efforts to date included reduced cost summer housing for summer session students to pilot a way to increase affordability and the housing rate saver program for continuing students who wish to stay in residence halls.

At present UCSC Dining is operating both the Cowell and Stevenson Café. CHES (which oversees Dining) recognizes that they can continue to run the Stevenson Café and want to explore how the Cowell Café site may support student Basic Needs efforts. The concept herein is a proposal for student, community and broad stakeholder input and co-development with exciting potential for years to come! Our campus Basic Needs Working Group is enthused to offer this for consideration and appreciate those who are able to review and reflect on what is herein (*see Partner details for "who" is involved below*). With the long-term uncertainty of the OPERS SUA Pantry and the emergence of Basic Need Hubs across UC Campuses and documented student needs, we have a unique opportunity to situate weekly basic needs workshops, a daily fresh and prepared food access pantry/distribution service, and student support at the Cowell Café. Beginning in Fall 2018 the Café would transform with added student art/murals and live student music while offering free coffee/tea services, informal study space, cooking demos and free tastings as well as a choice based fresh, healthy, and culturally diverse food pantry to offer an inclusive model for student support.

- Key Elements and Timeline Process for the Proposed Café Conversion and Opening:
 - February-May 2018: We will begin by having the CAO and CHES leadership review this document and then schedule a presentation to the Cowell College Senate. Following the introduction of this proposal we will host 4-6 stakeholder (i.e. student, staff, faculty, alumni) input and feedback sessions that will help shape the final site design and scope of use as well as coordination/management plan for key student and admin review/approval. Two phases will take place; the first series will serve as broad brainstorm and input space while the latter will introduce a final proposal for key input and refining. Stemming from an inclusive and student and staff/faculty engaged process we will submit a final proposal to designate decision-makers for review and approval before further action.
 - May-June 2018: Based on final feedback and input we will develop a summer site update and transition timeline. This will begin by assessing current equipment and materials in the Café that we would like to keep and determine the terms of the space use agreement, timeline, associated cost for on-going operations with CHES for UCSC Dining and Cowell College. By June 10, 2018 we will also identify and outline the conversion budget costs for the site with designate funding sources to successfully transition the Café. In addition to existing staffing and Basic

UCSC Cowell Café Basic Needs Hub Proposal Winter 2018

Needs project support we will look to recruit a Basic Needs team funded FTE staff position to coordinate the café and existing mobile kitchen to serve multiple campus sites. We will coordinate student staff and volunteers in conjunction with site needs and services in order that the Café continues as a daily site for services during the week as well as weekend times.

- July-September 2018: Dining will transfer their management of the site over to our Basic Needs lead partners (CASFS and the Dean of Students Office) and a final transition walk through will take place by the end of June before the transfer takes place. The summer will entail:
 - Updating/adding all renovations and site additions (i.e., including new student murals, equipment, and required infrastructure)
 - Developing a outreach and communication plan for the Fall launch.
 - Recruitment, training, and schedule development for site staff and student staff.
- End of September-December 2018: We will be ready to launch the first week of Fall Quarter 2018. Fall Quarter will serve as our student service and program test quarter to determine what schedule of workshops, services, and resources best serve those using the Café site. Site program activities and services will be updated based on student surveys and site usage feedback for Winter 2019 and thereafter.
- Budget Coordination and Management: We understand managing such a site and program requires long-term funding and multiple streams of support. At present we have systemwide funding (i.e., State funding and Global Food Initiative Funding through Basic Needs and Healthy Campus Network) coupled with campus division/unit budgeting (i.e. Division of Student Success/Dean of Students, CASFS, Blum Center, as well as student measure fees (i.e. Measure 43) to ensure a successful transition and timeline to operate the Café through 2020. By 2020 we will be able to ensure continuing a vision of design that has been tested, evaluated, and documented to meet student expectations and revised where necessary. A detailed budget will be included in the final spring 2018 proposal for review before implementation.
- College Advisory Team: Given the importance of Cowell students, staff, and faculty input we will establish a ongoing Café advisory body that will meet quarterly with Café staff and project partners to ensure feedback and site changes/additions directly incorporate the Cowell Community counsel. An annual presentation on the site will be provided to the Cowell College Senate as well as incorporated in larger campus impact reporting and communications.

UCSC Cowell Café Basic Needs Hub Proposal Winter 2018

- UCSC Basic Needs Working Group Core Team Leads:

	GFI Food/Basic Needs Access and Security
Campus	UC Santa Cruz
Campus Core Team Leads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Co-chair: Heather Bullock - Director of UCSC Blum Center on Poverty, Social Enterprise, and Participatory Governance; Professor of Psychology ● Co-chair: Tim Galarneau - GFI Food Access and Security Co-Chair; Food Systems Education and Research Specialist, CASFS ● Rosalinda Gallegos - Dean of Students Coordinator ● Bryan Montes - Dean of Students CalFresh Student Program Co-lead ● Yunuen Lopez - Dean of Students CalFresh Student Lead ● Diana Villalba—GFI Student Fellow and CalFresh Student Program Co-lead ● Lisa Nishioka - Blum Center Program Coordinator ● Nancy Yang - CASFS Food Access & Student Engagement Coordinator ● Apri Medina—Assistant Director, Financial Aid ● Margaret Bishop—Student Farm to Pantry and Pop-Up Coordinator ● Ibette Valle—Graduate Student Basic Needs Researcher

- **Conclusion:** We are excited to open a dialogue and work together to re-envision the Cowell Café for a new chapter in its history. While continuing to offer informal study space and coffee/tea beverages we believe the site can offer so much more to our students! Please feel free to contact our proposal lead, Tim Galarneau, with any questions, comments, or additional clarification we can provide at tgalarne@ucsc.edu or 831-359-8861. With gratitude and appreciation we look forward to the next steps in this exciting journey!

UCSC Cowell Café Basic Needs Hub Proposal Winter 2018

Details for further Basic Needs Research and Action in the UC:

Enclosed below are access links to the new UC wide Basic Need Report. The first link is the full report. The second link is a requested one-page sheet to highlight the campus work and the third link is an Executive Summary for quick reference.

1. UC Food and Housing Security Report <http://ucop.edu/global-food-initiative/files/food-housing-security.pdf>
2. Addressing Food and Security Report one-sheet <http://ucop.edu/global-food-initiative/files/addressing-food-housing-security.pdf>
3. Food and Housing Security Executive Summary <http://ucop.edu/global-food-initiative/files/food-housing-security-exec-summary.pdf>

Appendices: The three proceeding documents offers further UCSC level impact and stakeholder engagement details for efforts underway that weave into the interest in offering this Café and Basic Needs Hub proposal. We are happy to offer contacts and examples of such hubs on other UC campuses if helpful too!