

University Club Survey
Wednesday, December 15, 2004

Both the faculty and staff climate survey results indicated an interest by faculty and staff in a University Club. A task force has been developed to address this issue. The University Club would be a membership only facility with a variety of services. The response to the questions in the survey will assist the task force in its recommendations to the President.

230 faculty and staff responded.

1. I am:

Combined Responses	n	%
Faculty	90	39
Staff	136	59
Chose not to answer	4	2

2. Would you like a University Club on campus?

	n	%
Yes	178	77
No	45	20
Chose not to answer	7	3

	Faculty	Staff	Unreported
Yes	77	99	2
No	8	36	1
Chose not to answer	5	1	1

3. The purpose of the University Club should be to provide (Check all that apply)

	n	%
An informal space for all faculty and staff	167	73
Good food at a reasonable price	176	77
A relaxing environment to socialize	164	71
Other – Please describe	44	19

	Faculty	Staff	Unreported
An informal space for all faculty and staff	72	92	3
Good food at a reasonable price	75	98	3
A relaxing environment to socialize	74	87	3
Other – Please describe	18	25	1

4. What services would you like it to provide? (Check all that apply)

	n	%
Breakfast	98	43
Lunch	183	80
Dinner	100	43
Alcoholic beverages	91	40
Banquet facilities	85	37
Evening entertainment	40	17
Weekend entertainment	31	13
Other – Please describe	26	11

	Faculty	Staff	Unreported
Breakfast	38	58	2
Lunch	78	102	3
Dinner	51	47	2
Alcoholic beverages	46	43	2
Banquet facilities	37	46	2
Evening entertainment	14	25	1
Weekend entertainment	8	22	1
Other – Please describe	15	11	

5. Membership fees assist in defraying the cost to operate a faculty/staff dining area, but there would still be a cost for meals in addition to the membership fee. There are two main ways that membership fees can be calculated. Please check your preference.

	N	%
Annual membership, one flat rate for all	122	53
Percent of annual salary	51	22
Chose not to respond	57	25

	Faculty	Staff	Unreported
Annual membership, one flat rate for all	57	63	2
Percent of annual salary	17	33	1
Chose not to respond	16	40	1

6. The budgets for this type of club vary depending on the services provided. If the annual flat fee were selected, the membership fees would range between \$50 and \$200 annually. What would you be willing to pay as an annual fee?

	N	%
\$0	9	4
\$1 - \$50	76	33
\$51 - \$100	62	27
\$101 - \$150	20	9
\$151 - \$200	14	6
Chose not to respond	49	21

	Faculty	Staff	Unreported
\$0	5	4	
\$1 - \$50	28	47	1
\$51 - \$100	24	37	1
\$101 - \$150	12	8	
\$151 - \$200	11	2	1
Chose not to respond	10	38	1

7. If the above services were provided how often do you see yourself using the facility?

	N	%
Daily	50	22
Weekly	112	49
Monthly	19	8
Occasionally	3	1
Chose not to respond	46	20

	Faculty	Staff	Unreported
Daily	22	27	1
Weekly	52	28	2
Monthly	5	14	
Occasionally	1	2	
Chose not to respond	10	35	1

8. Please add any additional comments you have concerning a University Club.

Faculty Comments:

I do not think I would use the Club.

Sounds Great!!!!

Although I believe in putting my students first, I also think that this is a good move for FGCU. Faculty (in particular) receive few acknowledgements of their position, which I always thought was one that should be held in some level of respect. Having an adult, quiet place to gather, recognizes our need for this type of environment at times.

A university club strikes me as elitist, creating another barrier among faculty and students. This service would not be affordable to adjunct faculty in the humanities and to much of our staff. How does it fulfill the university's mission, exactly??

It would be nice if students had limited access as well, for example they could obtain a dining pass if their parents/family were to visit them, etc.

Having a University Club would be another sign of FGCU's growing maturity. So much effort has gone into growing programs and services that we have become insular. Faculty and staff across Colleges need the opportunity to discover each other. These new relationships would afford new opportunities for collaborations and partnerships that would strengthen the university and help us work towards shared vision.

I would think part of the solution would be a reconsideration of the campus lounges, particularly in Reed and Whitaker Hall. In Reed the 2nd floor lounge could be a faculty lounge, as it is in Ben Hill Griffin. Students rarely use it to each but to hold an occasional meeting. If there were more alternative faculty lounge spaces, you could reduce the need for a fulltime faculty dining lounge. But definitely something needs to be done. It is exhausting at worst and time-consuming and jarring at best to each anywhere but in the office.

Perhaps it can simply be a place where faculty and staff can take their food to eat- whether it was purchased from the cafe' or brought from home. This SERVICE should not have be at additional cost- ir if you ca provide annual cost of living raises perhaps I can afford to pay. Better yet, let the foundation and highly paid administrators pay for us lowly folks.

Cost of being a member needs to be reasonable; should include faculty and staff.

frequency of use would be dependent on costs and quality of food and service. Maybe administrators would like an exclusive club and be willing to pay for it, but I don't think so. I know of other universities that provide such without annual fees to faculty

Such a facility is needed on our campus when hosting off-campus guests such as faculty interviews, accreditation site visitors and other similar occasions. Restaurants that are "nearby" are often inconvenient and unsuitable to our needs.

Thank you for the opportunity for input.

I believe that a University Club would significantly increase the communication between divisions through informal means.

Please consider reciprocity relationships with other faculty clubs

This University Club should be like a Professional Social Club with freedom of speech, sharing of ideas and thoughts, a place to get together, make friends, and socialize.

See above

We do not need food service, just a quiet place to socialize, have informal meetings, and relax. A quiet room with a few tables, over stuffed chairs and no students should do the trick.

Also staff and faculty deserve separate facilities.

Dr Merwin promised such a place when the union opened, however, we got an "all you can eat" cafeteria instead.

A lounge would be nice, where a member could just go and relax, without having to buy food, but could have a drink with colleagues after a tough day of grading exams!

It should reflect a tropical style, but not the same old palm trees and parrots that you find in every restaurant in town. I envision more of an island style, but with big comfortable leather chairs and traditionally stylish decor (oriental rugs, dark wood, brass rails at the bar).

Perhaps a by-semester or by-academic-year membership could be an option, at least as an introductory-only offer, to get faculty and staff accustomed to the idea of having a space available on campus.

It should be centrally located to encourage daily use. I think limiting alcohol to wine and beer would be appropriate. The only way to encourage staff to participate is to have a proportional or sliding scale fee.

Thanks for considering this amenity.

If an annual fee is charged please take into consideration those of us who are adjunct professors and only on campus once or twice a week. I don't think the same annual fee for all should be charged, nor do I think a percentage of our salary should be charged. I think there should be a price for full time folks and a lesser one for part time.

I could see fees for special events but think that meals and drinks should cover the costs of operation without annual fee. If annual fees are necessary for operations they should be as low as possible to allow all faculty and staff to belong.

Why not simply transform that "all you can eat" cafeteria (which is rarely used and unnecessary) into a faculty/staff dining room? We should NOT have to pay to have lunch on campus without constant interruptions by students.

I'm disturbed by the idea that we would have another method of distancing ourselves from our students. Although banquet and other facilities would be useful for faculty/staff events, we should be encouraging faculty and staff to interact more with our students (eating with them for example) rather than separating ourselves even more.

I suspect I would use the facility 3 or 4 times per week.

A key factor would be the decor. With a higher membership fee the expectation for an environment more in line with a country club would be an appropriate expectation.

Largely, I would like a place to take visitors for lunch that does not involve losing my parking space :)

I am absolutely in favor of better dining facilities on campus and increased food service opportunities. I am also strongly opposed to an exclusive (and exclusionary) establishment that prohibits the entry of students or other non-faculty members.

I think that making parking places available for faculty that could better afford to pay was a mistake. I hope that a solution can be arrived at for this club that is more egalitarian.

Some professors like to have their last class of a given semester at a restaurant. It would be nice if reservations could be made to bring an entire class to the club for a relaxed, private dinner.

I want the members to have control of the menu, hours, rules, and events to assist faculty and staff rather than present obstacles.

Food, food service, and decor (as well as decorum) should provide an appropriate venue for key visitors, trustees, donors, etc.

The club would have to be conveniently located and not too far away from the academic buildings

I would be willing to pay up to \$100 annually if the decor does not resemble "campus cafeteria", the food should be exceptional, the seats should be comfortable, buffet or table service as well as location would also be a consideration. There should be small rooms for department parties.

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To be honest, I like the idea of an informal place for faculty to meet in more than I actually expect to go there for meals. I usually skip lunch, and if I eat lunch on campus it is only for social reasons. The club would increase the likelihood of my participation in social lunches, but probably only about once a week.

We need to consider guest policies. I envision such a club as a useful place to have lunch with guest speakers to my classes.

At the four other universities, faculty have not had to "pay dues". They paid for their meals/drinks, etc, but no dues per se. If a College or School booked it for an "event," then they would pay charges as appropriate. Often, especially on Fridays, UCs are opened for Happy Hours, but usually closed at night and on week-ends - unless an event was planned.

This is an extremely important missing component in the university. Establishing a sense of "who we are" is essential to building a sustainable, cohesive culture of an organization. This would be an important first step.

I have a problem with having to pay an annual fee. We already pay for parking (when there are no other options, like there are at most other institutions); we are asked to donate to the Foundation; our annual cost of living raise is being reduced as our insurance rates rise. Asking us to pay for something that, in my opinion, is a way to show some respect for faculty and staff is disrespectful. (By the way, I am fully aware that this idea did not originate with this committee. Thank you for doing this work.

Staff Comments:

Again, I do not see this as needing to be a Club, but rather a Staff and Faculty dining area run by a food service. I would not patronize it if it were a club and charged a membership fee of any kind.

i'm interested in a relatively quiet place to take donors for lunches - on campus

I think this is an exceptional idea.

Perhaps fees could be set based on either staff or faculty appointment. This has been a wonderful asset at other schools where I have worked. It would even be nice to have a room within the cafeteria that is designated as faculty/staff where lunch could be eaten away from students. I love the students but have trouble even crossing the campus without being stopped several times for questions. One should be able to eat lunch in a peaceful, non-work environment. Thank you for considering this.

I've seen this work at UF with a renovated building. It was a relaxing place that could be used for informal gatherings on a reservation basis.

I would hope that the meals would be economical. Salads should be at a set price and not weighed.

Is there a way to subsidize the cost of a meal with any state programs?

I don't know why there is a need for a membership fee? It's not a SOCIAL CLUB...it's a Faculty/Staff lunch room. But something about it has to be different from the Eagle Cafe...which I don't think is working too well.

If the layout and set up could be similar to that of a casual country club - like Corkscrews and the clubhouse at the Stoneybrook Golf Course, it would be flexible enough to suit many purposes and functions. It could perhaps generate funds by being available for rent on Sundays for events/functions - on a restrictive basis. There are only a small number of facilities available for functions in the immediate area and the revenue could help defray membership fees.

A smoking area

It would also be a nice environment in which to hold informal receptions, (like during the holidays and graduations or special events held on campus.)

My vision of use would be mostly for lunch..getting away from my desk...and perhaps to attend any faculty/staff social event.

I would probably use more than weekly, less than daily.

Now that I've completed the survey, I realize I'm more interested in a staff 'dining room' than a 'university club.' But both might still be appealing, depending on the services offered.

I would like the ambiance to be more formal than the Perch or Eagle facilities.

I believe the services should be priced to cover all of the variable costs and perhaps even some of the fixed costs, so that the annual fee can be minimized. This will broaden the membership base, and ensure that infrequent users do not subsidize frequent users.

Would prefer not having to pay a fee for this other than for the meals I could buy.

We should be very careful about what the "guest" policy might be and at what frequency the same guest may be invited. You are basically starting a "country club" and should be advised they have rules about how many times a person can be a "guest" for a reason. Also some clear thinking needs to be developed about the invitation of students....will they be "prohibited", allowed on special days, etc. If there are no restrictions on the inclusion of students, what's the point? Who else is there that the faculty and staff want to separate themselves from?

University Advancement hosts many donors throughout the year -- and many prospective donors. We give tours and invite them to campus events and then have no suitable place for lunch. A small private room for a maximum of 6 people would be used often by the Advancement division.

I urge consideration of a reasonable membership price at the lowest level possible, with the ability to payroll deduct the membership over 1, 5, or 10 pay period option. I would not participate if this club is handled like the designated parking where for a very high price one person can enjoy what everyone else uses as a service.

I would like to see it be reasonable for all levels of faculty and staff. It could be structured on the equality model of the Staff Advisory Council.

For #7 above, there aren't enough choices. I would use it probably 2 to 3 times per week.

Also, I see no need for alcohol, but it would be nice if Baldy's had faculty/staff day.

I would not pay an annual "membership fee" due to the current high costs of food/beverage on campus. If my schedule would permit I would rather save a few dollars and drive to the Publix plaza, however it is the University's responsibility to provide convenience for faculty&staff without overcharging.

This would be an excellent place for faculty and staff to become better acquainted. I've been here almost five years and I don't really know many faculty well at all. And, some staff do I seldom see.

I wouldn't want to see it become a country club though.

This shouldn't be in an atmosphere where people would show off their battle ribbons.....know what I mean?

Thanks for asking/////

It is my opinion that faculty and staff already have access to quality food service at the Perch in the Union and the dining facility in Howard Hall. Faculty and staff should be encouraged to mingle with students, not segregate themselves from the population we are here to serve. If I wish to socialize with my co-workers, I can do so on my own time without paying \$50-\$200/year to be part of an elite group that excludes those who do not wish to join or cannot afford to do so.

If banquets and special parties are able to reserve the club there should be a separate room to avoid closing down the club on a specific date or time.

Comments from unreported type responders:

(None Entered)