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June 12, 2017

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Dr. Kate Hudepohl  
FROM: Gary A. Ransdell   
SUBJECT: Senate Resolution #2017-05-11 – Student Fees

First, a few corrections: The new 20-year agreement with ARAMARK does not include a fee for all full-time students. The program in reference is not a fee, nor is it earmarked for the renovation of the Garrett Conference Center.

There were 6,314 students who purchased a meal plan last year either voluntarily or as part of a mandatory housing policy. Such students will not be participating in this Premium Meal Plan Dollar Program. This program does require students who are not participating in any other meal plan to participate. All who do participate get a selection of meal options in return for their \$75 participation. There is clear evidence that commuter students who eat some of their meals on campus are more engaged and more likely to persist and graduate.

This program is common on several other campuses with larger dollar amounts than ours (see attached list).

The renovation of Garrett is tied to multiple aspects of the ARAMARK contract. While it is conceivable that some of the revenue from the Premium Meal Plan Dollar Program might be used to help the cost to renovate Garrett, it is inaccurate to say said revenue is earmarked for the Garrett renovation. There are numerous campus-wide annual and occasional costs which various contract revenue streams will cover.

Finally, this action does not limit President Caboni's budgetary options: What it, however, does is address ARMARK commissions with the renovation of Garrett with no use of institutional bonding. President Caboni, therefore, will not be forced to deal with the renovation of this building which is nearly 60 years old, and which is replete with failing systems (electrical, plumbing, heating, cooling, roofing, etc.).

GAR:ttc

Attachment

xc: Dr. Tim Caboni  
Dr. David Lee  
Mr. Brian Kuster  
Ms. Ann Mead  
Mr. Bryan Russell

MEAL PLANS

**PREMIUM MEAL PLAN DOLLAR PROGRAM**

**Examples**



\$435/ semester

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

\$400/ semester



\$300/ semester



\$300/ semester

THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

\$300/ semester



\$300/ semester



\$240/ semester



\$225/semester



\$200/ semester



\$150/ semester



\$150/ semester



\$120/ semester



\$100/ semester