House Dining Committee Meeting Summary  
Wednesday, February 22, 2012  
Maseeh Hall

Agenda:

I. Review of minutes  
a. No changes made to last week’s minutes.

II. Update from Bon Appétit  
a. Bon Appétit received mostly positive feedback from their Valentine’s Dinner, however, with the low turnout, they are looking to hold the dinner on a different day next year.  
b. Upcoming Bon Appétit events include: Weekly specials at Late Night, Dollar Sundays, a Mac and Cheese bar, Baking Day, and a Chowder Cook-off and Carnival Cook-off later this week  
c. Brain Food for March will include smoothies, with plans to have them more than once a month  
d. Bon Appétit will celebrate Dr. Seuss’ 98th birthday on March 2nd.  
e. There are plans for Jazz Brunches starting on March 4th.  
f. On Pi Day (March 14th), Bon Appétit will provide different types of pies in the house dining halls.  
g. The menu calendar for February was very well received. The March calendar will be put up in the middle of next week.

III. “Bring a Friend to Dinner” event  
a. 459 people brought guests to dinner on February 9, 2012.  
b. Committee believed the event/program is worth pursuing in the future with the following potential modifications:  
   i. Expanding to all locations over a longer period  
   ii. Implementing a RSVP system  
   iii. Application of similar system during CPW

IV. Questions added to Bon Appétit’s Student Voice Survey  
a. First question added asked students to define flexibility, in regards to their dining plan  
   i. Most complaints come from students with the 19-meal plan about not using all 19 meals.  
   ii. Due to various restrictions, a block plan is not possible for next year.  
   iii. The committee is looking for a step approach until larger structural change can be approved and implemented.  
b. The second question addressed late night dining.  
   i. Prior to this academic year, Late Night dining was heavily used (but with cash, not swipes)  
   ii. Some students said they were not happy with the fall semester’s offerings
1. Bon Appétit said they have increased offerings since the fall so their menu now features Panini’s, smoothies, soup, chili and more.

V. CPW
   a. Bon Appétit wants to create a set up similar to Family Weekend
      i. Table set ups with food samples
      ii. Brochures
   b. It was suggested to have an event similar to “Bring a Friend to Dinner” to allow hosts to show the visiting students the dining halls
      i. Visiting students will receive $20.16 in TechCASH to spend, in addition to, the free food available throughout the weekend.
      ii. Giving away one meal during CPW would be reasonable, but more than one would not
      iii. Bon Appétit and MIT Dining sponsored “Bring a Friend to Dinner” event, but wouldn’t be able to do that for CPW.
      iv. The committee believed that a similar program would be worth looking into and discussing for next year’s CPW and think through financial implications and make sure that it doesn’t favor hosts on meal plans.

VI. Event Registration Procedure
   a. This was brought up to address issues of individual houses having special, private events.
   b. A framework for event registration has been developed and will be sent to both Housemasters and dining chairs

VII. Next Meeting
   a. The next meeting will be 5 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14 in Maseeh Hall.