

Cindy Lai

Professor Holguin

RHET101 SectionC7

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Better Food, Better Mood

As a Chinese saying goes, there are four elementary necessities of life, clothing, housing, food and transportation. We are in charge of our clothing and transportation, and our campus provides comfortable housing condition. The only flaw, from my point of view, is probably the insufficient food service. Food supplies are so important that not enough food services may directly lead to the decline in happiness, thus affecting students' academic performance.

At the present stage, the principal contradiction in food service on campus is one between the ever-growing needs for a wide range of tasty food and the low quantities and few kinds of production in school canteen. A significant complaint is the desperately long queues every noon. During the peak hour, particularly around 12:10, students almost line up to the door. To make matters worse, as the line eventually creeps to the food, the delicious food has always been sold out, leaving students hungry and disappointed. Also, many international students think that there are too few kinds of food, especially the western food. Last but not least, many students often feel hungry at night, but there is no other food access on campus when the supermarket and canteens are closed, so they have to continue their study with an empty stomach at night.

It is understandable that our campus is newly built and many services and facilities are imperfect, but never can we ignored the existing problems. To solve the problems mentioned above, I have come up with some proposals. To begin with, there is an urgent need to provide more kinds of food, especially the western food. The variety of food should match the variety of students'

hometowns. We hope that the canteen can keep developing new dishes while maintain the high quality, providing fresh surprise every week.

What's more, we are calling for longer service hours. The present service hour is far from satisfaction with the vacancy at night. Night snacks are important parts of college life and they not only serve as the energy supplements for students studying deep at night but also add fun to our night life. And they should not be limited to only barbeques and dumplings in halal canteen.

To be more ambitious and creative, I suggest that more restaurants or shops be established and more convenient access to takeout food be allowed. In most of the universities around the country, there are many stores on campus, providing a wide range of food from staple food to snacks, from milk tea to coffee. Some objection may arise that it is impractical to open restaurants on our campus since we have too few customers here. The school leaders also want to control the takeout for the sake of safety. To solve this problem in the present condition, developing a food delivering system might be of great help. The campus can sign contracts with certain food or beverage suppliers after rigorous examination to assure the safety. Then this system can deliver food from canteen or from these restaurants outside the campus to dormitories for students. Not only can this system provide part-time jobs for students in need, it can also provide a wide range of tasty food for students and guarantee the food safety to the greatest possibility in the meantime.

It is true that our school canteen has always been dedicating themselves to improving food services on campus, and their production is of high quality with reasonable price. But the problems mentioned above cannot be ignored and my proposal might be taken into account. More channels for reflecting opinions and suggestions should be accessible to keep in touch with customers and perfect the food production continuously. Generally, everyone, involving students, teachers and school leaders, have a stake in food on campus. If the food service can be improved and more food

is supplied, we students will definitely be more energetic and impassioned in study. Faculties on campus will undoubtedly have a higher happiness level, thus working more efficiently. In a broader sense, it is not only related to food supply, it is relevant to the campus service and deliberative democracy of Zhejiang University International Campus.