



Shared Governance Idea Submission Form

Students and employees of Fairleigh Dickinson University can use this form to propose an idea to create a new policy or practice or revise an existing policy or practice. Fill out the form and click submit; the form will be sent to a staff member in the Office of the President, who will move it forward to the Governance Steering Council for review.

Requests for anonymity will be respected beyond the Governance Steering Council (GSC), which has to know the name of each person who proposes ideas so that the GSC can ask questions if necessary.

Caller

Name	Zakia Clay
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Additional Information

Your Stakeholder Body Membership (choose one)	Faculty
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Your Campus Affiliation (choose one)	All Campuses
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Title of Proposal	<input type="text" value="Community Table"/>
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On behalf of the Council for Community Success, I respectfully submit this proposal for consideration.

Proposal Overview

We propose the establishment of the Community Table Initiative, a program that ensures surplus food from meetings and events is made available to students in a respectful, organized, and discreet manner. This effort supports the University's vision of Creating Healthy Communities by promoting whole-person health, academic flourishing, and purposeful engagement.

Program Components

1. Event Food Redistribution

- When catered food remains after official use, organizers may choose to make it available for students.
- A designated timeframe (e.g., 30–60 minutes after the event) would be shared so students can pick up items without disrupting the event.

2. Communication System

- Notices can be posted to a designated University webpage and shared via existing student communication channels (social media, apps, or campus alerts).
- A small sign outside event rooms can direct students when food becomes available.

3. Respectful and Orderly Access

- Students would be encouraged to come quietly, take what they need, and leave the space as they found it.
- This approach normalizes community care while maintaining event decorum.

Anticipated Benefits

- **Wellbeing and Access:** Provides additional food resources for students, reducing barriers to wellness and supporting whole-person health.
- **Sustainability:** Reduces unnecessary food waste, aligning with environmental stewardship goals.
- **Community Building:** Reinforces a sense of belonging and care within the University community.
- **Efficiency:** Simple to implement with minimal staff time or new resources.

Framework Alignment: Creating Healthy Communities

Dimension How Community Table Aligns

Learning, Career Readiness, Academic Flourishing Supports student focus and academic performance by ensuring access to food.

Resilience, Support, Wholeness, and Wellness Provides immediate relief to students experiencing food insecurity, enhancing resilience.

Sustainable Environment and Community Reduces waste by redistributing surplus food sustainably.

Short- and Long-Term Stability Builds trust and consistency through reliable systems of community care.

Purposeful Work and a Focus on the Future Demonstrates purposeful resource management and institutional responsibility.

Lifestyle, Health, and Preventive Care Encourages healthy eating by making balanced meals more available.

Access, Belonging, and Community Creates a welcoming practice that fosters belonging and inclusivity.

Meaning and Purpose Embeds care and purpose into everyday campus life, reinforcing shared values.

Budget Considerations

This program requires minimal to no additional cost, as it leverages existing catering and communication systems. Possible small costs may include:

- Printing signs for event doors: \$100 annually.
- Website or app updates to post availability: covered by existing

communications staff.

Estimated Annual Budget: \$100

We believe this program exemplifies the mission of FDU's Council for Community Success by fostering access, sustainability, and belonging. We respectfully request the Governance Steering Council's support in piloting the Community Table Initiative.

Description of Problem the Proposal Solves or Opportunity for Improvement the Proposal Addresses:

The purpose of this initiative is to reduce food waste and support student wellbeing by creating a simple system for redistributing surplus food from university events.

Reason for This Proposal

Same as above.

The purpose of this initiative is to reduce food waste and support student wellbeing by creating a simple system for redistributing surplus food from university events.

Is this proposal time sensitive?

No

Names of Groups You Think Should Be Consulted on This Proposal

Request Anonymity

No