

**To: The University Senate**

**From: Linda S. Prokopy, Joshua J. David and the Student Affairs Committee**

**Subject: Food Insecurity and Grocery Store Matters**

**Disposition: University Senate for Approval**

**Proposal:**

**Rationale:**

**WHEREAS:** the U.S. Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity as “a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy lifestyle”<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS:** The United States Department of Agriculture has classified areas around Purdue, including parts of residential campus as well as off-campus housing, as a food desert since 2010; and

**WHEREAS:** The “Hunger on Campus – The Challenge of Food Insecurity for College Students” 2016 report studied food insecurity on college campuses across the United States concluded the following:<sup>2</sup>

- I. 48 percent of respondents reported food insecurity in the previous 30 days, including 22 percent with very low levels of food security that qualify them as hungry, and
- II. More than half of all first-generation students (56 percent) were food insecure, compared to 45 percent of students who had at least one parent who attended college, and
- III. 55 percent reported that these problems caused them to not buy a required textbook; 25 percent reported dropping a class; and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://studentsagainsthunger.org/hunger-on-campus/>

**WHEREAS:** In the fall of 2017, the Purdue Student Government conducted a survey among its constituency, and out of roughly 3,000 respondents, 16.5 percent reported skipping a meal for financial reasons; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The University Senate urges the Administration to work with the Purdue Student Government and the Purdue Graduate Student Government to combat food insecurity present in all of its forms among students, faculty, and staff; and

The University Senate urges the Administration to include a grocery with affordable fresh produce in any of its new residential development on land owned by Purdue or the Purdue Research Foundation.

**Respectfully submitted by Linda S. Prokopy & Joshua J. David**

Student Affairs Committee

In Favor

Opposed

Tom Atkinson.  
Matthew Dittman  
Joshua David  
Signe Kastberg.  
Beth McCuskey  
Felicia Roberts.  
Paul Robinson.  
David Sanders.  
Steven Scott.  
Jane Yacilla.  
Haiyan H Zhang.