

First Steps in the Establishment of a Flexi Transfer System Resolution 22-23-22

Whereas: a core Jesuit value of the University of San Francisco is *cura personalis* - care of the whole person; and

Whereas: The University of San Francisco requires students living on-campus to purchase a Flexi Meal Plan (excluding St. Annes, Fulton Flats, Fulton House, and Pedro Arrupe residence halls); and

Whereas: the Flexi Meal Plan's purpose is to provide students with a "*safer campus environment* by minimizing the need to carry and use cash for daily expenses," and to, "expedite the purchase of products and services, particularly at campus dining locations;"¹ and

Whereas: throughout the 2022-2023 academic year and during the 2023 Spring Town Hall, students expressed their frustrations with either too much or not enough Flexi; and

Whereas: according to Garrett O'Doherty, the Director of Events Management and Guest Services, the Flexi Standard Meal Plan was not designed to cover 3 meals per day for students; and

Whereas: if Flexi funds are depleted prior to the end of the semester, funds from your Don Dollars debit account will be automatically used to pay for meals, which requires depositing money independent of the school's tuition collection; and

Whereas: many students opt for skipping meals in order to avoid spending out of pocket instead of imposing an additional financial restraint and depositing extra money; and

Whereas: on the other hand, for students that have too much Flexi, funds not used by the end of the Spring semester are *"forfeited;"* and

Whereas: changes to the Flexi meal plan can only be made through Bon Appetit Business services and must be based on "*medical needs or dietary/cultural consideration*" and cannot be

¹ One-Card Flexi Meal Plan



modified for "*financial reasons*,"² hence, students are not allowed to modify their Flexi Plan if they have leftover Flexi at the end of the semester; and

Whereas: an anonymous surveyed undergraduate student commented:

"I don't eat on campus – well, rarely. And my flatmates prefer to cook in our kitchen, so we have all this Fall flexi that rolled over, and don't have a means to use it. I wish I could send it to some of my friends who rely on the caf (cafeteria) for their meals. I would even donate it into the food pantry if I could."

Whereas: another anonymous surveyed undergraduate student commented:

"Since I live in Loyola Village, I rarely eat on-campus because the caf is too far away. However, at the end of the year, I still have hundreds of dollars of Flexi left, while some of my friends are running out of Flexi. Within my group of friends, I have no choice but to share my ID number with them so that the money we paid can be efficiently maximized. This is a hassle because I am always worried that my ID number would get leaked out or misused. Having a Flexi transferal system would solve my, and many other students', problems."

Whereas: to resolve the above issues, students have resorted to creative means to share their Flexi, including the unlawful violation of the Student Code to share their One Card identification number or special programs that facilitate *quid pro quo* transfers; and

Whereas: many students opt to violate the Student Conduct Code, Section 5 *Prohibited Conduct*, Sub-section 5.3 *Respect for Community*, Clause 2 *Fraudulent Identification: "Possession, forgery, alteration, or misuse of the USF OneCard*;" ³ and the One Card Terms and Conditions that the identification number is only to be used "*exclusively by the person to whom it is issues, and only the cardholder may present their card for debit privileges*" with the penalty of confiscation or revocation⁴ (Appendix I); and

Whereas: first-year students as part of The Magis Emerging Leadership Program have hosted events to facilitate the lawful sharing of flexi funds among the student body during their week-long "Flexi Fairies" Event; and

² University of San Francisco Meal Plans

³ Student Code 5.3 Respect for Community

⁴ One Card Terms and Conditions



Whereas: the aforementioned situations could have been prevented if an official Flexi Transfer system were established in which students have the capacity to share funds in their Flexi Meal plan with others; therefore, be it

Resolved by the Associated Students of the University of San Francisco Senate in its role as the sole representative body of all the undergraduate students of the University of San Francisco, that the following be enacted:

Resolved: a task force be formed by fall 2023 to analyze and evaluate the implications and logistics of engineering a Flexi Transferal system which entitles students with unused Flexi to i) donate their funds whereby students who have depleted their funds can receive from these donations or ii) directly transfer Flexi funds to a peer of their choosing; furthermore be it,

Resolved: the appointed task force and University sector leading the implementation and engineering process regularly update the Associated Students of the University of San Francisco's President of the progress and tentative timeline; furthermore be it,

Resolved: The University develops guidelines which will best facilitate this process in a manner aligned with other policies while avoiding a hazardous depletion of a student's flexi funds.

Submitted by:

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Supported by:

David Holler, Professor, Dept. of Rhetoric and Language; Director, Martín-Baró Scholars Program
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Kiana Lee, Flexi Federation Advocacy Group⁵ Representative

Presented to the Senate on: April 26, 2023

Passed by the Senate on: May 3, 2023

Signed by:

Ethan Lee-Bellows, ASUSF President

⁵ "The Flexi Federation Advocacy Group aims to address USF's inadequate meal plan and food insecurity amongst the students." - usfflexifederation instagram account



Appendix I: Email sent by the One Card Office

UNIVERSITY OF One Card and Public SAN FRANCISCO Safety Systems
Campus Dining Payment Methods
Dear
This is a community reminder regarding authorized forms of payment at campus dining locations. If you are purchasing meals at a campus dining location with funds in your USF One Card account (Flexi Meal Plan and Don Dollars), university policy requires that you utilize one of the following:
 USF Mobile One Card USF Physical Card USF Wristband
Authorized debit or credit cards can be used as an alternative form of payment. USF CWID numbers are not valid forms of payment and will no longer be accepted at USF dining locations. For more information regarding this policy, please contact the USF One Card Office at onecard@usfca.edu .
Thank you,
The One Card Office