

**Student Advisory Committee to the Auraria Board
November 20th, 2009**

WE, THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES OF SACAB, HEREBY RESOLVE:

WHEREAS, AHEC has an ongoing contractual relationship for the provision of catering and dining services with the food service corporation Sodexo; and

WHEREAS, we SACAB Representatives, through our student fees, and the use of catering services fund this food service contract between AHEC and the Sodexo corporation; and

WHEREAS, a great deal of food service available on campus is contracted through the Sodexo corporation including Auraria Campus Catering by Sodexo; and

WHEREAS, other universities and colleges in Denver and throughout Colorado have contracts with Sodexo, including Regis University, University of Denver, Ft. Lewis College, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, and Colorado State University; and

WHEREAS, Sodexo currently purchases copious amounts of tomatoes, 90%-95% of which come from Florida during the winter, and supplies them to campuses throughout the country including Auraria; and

WHEREAS, Florida tomato pickers earn between \$0.40 and \$0.50 cents per thirty-two pound bucket of tomatoes they pick, a picking piece rate which has remained virtually unchanged for thirty years; and

WHEREAS, Florida tomato pickers are denied the right to organize or collectively bargain with their employers, and are denied the right to overtime pay; and

WHEREAS, the Sodexo corporation has stated its “desire to do business with suppliers, contractors and other partners who conduct their business based on responsible, ethical, social and environmental practices;” and

WHEREAS, a current national campaign being led by the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and Student Farmworker Alliance (SFA) is requesting that corporations who purchase large quantities of tomatoes from Florida, like Sodexo, negotiate a \$0.01 increase for every pound of tomatoes they purchase to be passed on directly as a wage increase for tomato pickers; and

WHEREAS, the CIW represents the interests of Florida’s tomato pickers, has received numerous international awards for its work combating modern-day slavery and defending the rights of farmworkers and has negotiated successfully with Subway, Burger King, McDonalds, Yum! Brands and Whole Foods Markets to improve wages and working conditions in these companies' tomato supply chains; and

WHEREAS, the CIW, most recently, successfully negotiated to improve the wages and working conditions in the tomato supply chain of Compass Group, the third largest campus food service provider in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the CIW and SFA campaign is requesting that corporations like Sodexo implement an enforceable human rights-based code of conduct for their tomatoes suppliers; and

WHEREAS, the CIW requests to collaborate with corporations like Sodexo in order for farmworkers to have input at all levels of the development, implementation, monitoring and enforcement of the code of conduct, wage increase and subsequent third-party monitoring mechanisms so as to ensure that the process is enacted in an enforceable and transparent manner; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that SACAB urges the Sodexo corporation to meet with the CIW to negotiate the terms for directly improving Florida tomato pickers' wages by \$.01 per pound of tomatoes, and, together with the CIW, implement an enforceable, human rights-based Code of Conduct for its tomato supply chain; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SACAB urges the General Manager of Auraria Campus Catering By Sodexo and the Auraria Board to publicly call on Sodexo to do the same; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that SACAB requests the leadership of the entire Auraria campus in bringing national attention to this issue; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to Auraria Board; the student government bodies of MSCD, UCD, and CCD; the AHEC Food Service Advisory Committee; the Office of the Executive Vice President for Administration of AHEC; the Auraria Campus Sodexo Office; Jeff Lougee, Sodexo District Manager; the other campuses in Denver and Colorado with contracts with Sodexo; the Coalition of Immokalee Workers; and the Student/Farmworker Alliance.

Signed, we the SACAB Members:

Chair, Alec Gwin: _____

Vice-Chair, Eli Rodriguez: _____

AHEC Board Rep, Michelle Sprowl: _____

Public Relations Officer, Hannah Kaufman: _____

Chief Justice, Carl McEncroe: _____

Chief of Staff, Andrew Pattison: _____