

May 28, 2014

Dear Colleagues,

The past week has been a flurry of activity as we continue to negotiate with Aramark on a potential partnership for dining. The following is an update for this week:

1. Last Wednesday, University Human Resources, Aramark officials, Office of EVPFA staff, and I met with several senior managers in dining services to begin the process of learning more about the important work that each of you does for UK. Similar conversations will continue later this week and throughout the next couple of weeks as we negotiate toward a potential contract and partnership. None of our commitments to you, as UK employees, have changed. If a contract is successfully negotiated, you can remain a UK employee with the same salary and the same benefits. Over time, you will also < if you want < have the opportunity to explore career opportunities and options with Aramark. But that choice will be yours. Nothing has changed.
2. This week, UK and Aramark officials continue meetings to negotiate a contract agreement that would make our partnership a reality. The goal is to complete those negotiations in the next two weeks. If successful, Aramark and UK officials will quickly meet with all of you to discuss next steps. We will, moreover, be sharing the terms of that contact with the university community so that everyone can understand fully the potential benefits and investments that could be made in our campus now and into the future.
3. As part of that negotiation, we are also are working to develop capital projects < projects that would have to be approved by the Board of Trustees< to invest millions of dollars in renovating and building new dining facilities. The potential momentum in facilities improvements is huge. Aramark wants to be part of the transformation already taking place at UK with thousands of new residence hall beds and new classroom, research and athletics spaces being developed throughout our campus. We will have more news on that front in the coming weeks.

As promised, I will be back to you next week with another update on our progress. I have been continually heartened and delighted by your response to our conversations and your dedication to the University.

I continue to be proud to work with so many dedicated and talented staff throughout UK. I am excited about what the future holds with a potential partnership that could allow all of us to serve students and our university even better.

Go Cats

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