

Provide more opportunities for fun, low key events to meet colleagues (e.g., opening the East Dining Wing to faculty and staff on \$5 Fridays when there are no events scheduled).

CURRENT CHALLENGE:

Fresno State is a big place. There are over 2,300 employees working across dozens of buildings and departments all over campus. Each person at Fresno State plays a role in fulfilling the university's mission of helping our students succeed both in the classroom and beyond. While we are all well aware of the important work being done in our own departments, we are oftentimes unaware of the important work going on in other areas of campus beyond our own. There are too few opportunities at Fresno State to meet our colleagues from other departments from which we don't have regular contact. We are missing opportunities for collaboration and synergy that come from being closer to the rest of our campus community. When we become better aware of who our colleagues are and what their role is, we are able to do our own job better, which allows us to better serve our students.

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

There are a few regular events on campus which are great for meeting new people. Red Friday and Fall/Spring Breakfast Appreciation are a few examples of events that get faculty and staff from across campus together. We need more opportunities for fun, low-key events to meet our colleagues.

Whenever I attend a \$5 Friday at the University Dining Hall, I am struck by just how many staff and faculty members I see enjoying their lunch, and how many faces I recognize. But staff and faculty are currently scattered throughout the dining area with the students. If the University would open East Dining Wing to faculty and staff when there are no events in the room, we would have a new opportunity to enjoy a delicious lunch and meet colleagues who we otherwise wouldn't get the opportunity to meet.

BENEFITS TO FRESNO STATE:

By meeting colleagues from across campus that we might otherwise not meet, we are able to learn more about the important work being done by others. When we meet colleagues who we might otherwise not encounter on a regular basis, we create the conditions necessary for natural collaboration and synergy.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: