

**UH Students for Fair Trade
c/o Tim O'Brien
1303 Ruthven Street
Houston, TX 77019-5139
713.739.0011**

Jay Gogue
President, University of Houston
212 E. Cullen Building
Houston, TX 77024-2018
VIA: HAND DELIVERY

August 30, 2006

Re: Secret Meetings of the Food Service Advisory Committee

Dear Mr. Gogue:

Last April your employee Emily Messa, manager of the business services department, invited our group to give a presentation to the Food Service Advisory Committee Meeting. Unfortunately the Committee never met before the semester concluded.

This semester when I contacted Ms. Messa about attending the next meeting of the Committee, her subordinate Esmeralda Valdez claimed that the meetings are not open to the public and that I would be barred from attending or presenting at the Committee meeting. (see her email which is enclosed)

We would like to know why these meetings are held in secret? According to the contract between Aramark and the University this committees must exist to obtain customer reactions and assess Aramark's performance. If you shut out official student groups like ours, what is the point for having the committee?

As a group of students who make large sacrifices to attend this University we would like to be able to attend the meetings and voice our concerns. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. O'Brien
Founder, UH Students for Fair Trade

Attachment: Valdez email dated August 24, 2006
cc: file, United Students for Fair Trade