

Slow Food Campus Chapter Handbook

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interventions. This approach enables the great diversity of activity that makes Slow Food the only holistic, grassroots, international organization in the good food movement.

The roles and responsibilities at each scale of leadership are:

Individuals - (1) apply Slow Food values to their daily life (2) inspire others to practice Slow Food values (3) support the work of Slow Food by becoming a member (4) participate in Slow Food campaigns

Local & Campus Chapters – (1) inspire their community to practice and promote Slow Food values (2) gather their community together to celebrate, learn, and foster new leadership (3) organize local projects, partnerships and campaigns to make food and farming in their area more good, clean, and fair (4) serve as a local anchor and organizer for regional, national and global Slow Food campaigns

State Governors – (1) inspire their region to practice and promote Slow Food values (2) support the healthy development and function of chapters and leaders in the region (3) organize regional level gatherings to celebrate, learn, and foster new leadership (3) facilitate communication across regions and with the national office (4) Serve as a regional anchor for national and global Slow Food campaigns

National Staff – (1) inspire the country to practice and promote Slow Food values (2) gather the national and international community together to celebrate, learn, and foster new leaders (2) support local level work by maintaining administrative infrastructure and a national profile (3) coordinate national campaigns and partnerships that exercise our collective power (4) serve as a national anchor and organizer for the global Slow Food movement.

National Board of Directors – (1) provide governance to the organization and proper fiduciary oversight (2) align mission and purpose that articulates the organization's goals, means, and primary constituents served (3) participate in planning processes for Slow Food USA and assist in implementing and monitoring the plan's goals (4) determine which programs and campaigns are consistent with Slow Food USA mission and monitor their effectiveness (5) with the Slow Food USA national office, clearly articulate the organization's mission, accomplishments, and goals to the public and garner support in order to enhance Slow Food USA's public standing.

Slow Food International – (1) Supports the worldwide Slow Food network in a variety of ways (2) operates a publishing house and an event production house (3) assists in organizing international campaigns and gatherings.

Campus Chapter Basics

Historically, young people in general—and students in particular—have been a force of social change. Students were and continue to be at the heart of social movements such as those for Civil Rights, LGBTQ Rights, Immigration Rights, Labor Justice, Environmental Justice and so on. The future of the food movement depends on leadership from today's young people—you!

Slow Food Campus Chapters are part of a growing network of students and young people who believe that slow food should be a universal right. Campus chapters across the country work together to achieve a better food system and a better world where everyone - especially low-income communities and people of color - has access to good, clean, and fair food.

Any students, faculty, and staff who have an interest in food: whether it's food systems issues, environmental sustainability, social justice, gastronomy and culture, or international affairs are encouraged to join in on the Slow Food work!

The goal is for students to raise awareness about food issues, connect with the larger movement, partner with their local community, collaborate with other chapters in the US, and be a gathering point on their campus and beyond. Chapters are also encouraged to choose a staff or faculty advisor who is committed to student leadership and who can offer additional guidance.

More and more students are joining the Slow Food movement on campus. As of 2017, we have 21 active campus chapters ranging from Colorado State University to the University of Vermont.

As a campus chapter, you are joining a changemaking movement that has three major goals...

1. Changing Hearts & Minds and Educate & Inspire
2. Changing People's Choices and Actions and Bringing Awareness to Food Choices
3. Changing Structures & Preserving and Celebrating Cultures

Why does Slow Food believe in chapters?

While Slow Food aims to engage individuals to become Slow Food leaders regardless of chapter affiliation, chapters serve a unique and important role as the most visible and concentrated nodes of our international, grassroots network. They are, in many ways, the gold standard of Slow Food organizing.

Local & Campus Chapters...

- inspire their community to practice and promote Slow Food values
- gather their community together to celebrate, learn, and foster new leadership

- organize local projects, partnerships and campaigns to make food and farming in their area more good, clean, and fair
- serve as a local anchor and organizer for regional, national and global Slow Food campaigns

General Responsibilities

What are the responsibilities of a campus chapter?

- to be student led
- to be free and open to all students and campus community members
- to practice a commitment to diversity
- to host at least one gathering that is free and open to the public every year
- to maintain an open line of communication between the chapter and the national office
- to hold elections for leadership positions
- to file an Annual Report with Slow Food USA every year
- to follow SF USA's branding guidelines and comply with the Logo Use Agreements

Leadership

Starting a Slow Food Chapter on your campus will be a challenge and will take a committed group of leaders. Below are the formal leadership positions that Slow Food USA recommends for every Campus Chapter. However, it is important to keep in mind that everyone in the group has something important to contribute. The role of the core leadership team is to ensure that everyone's voice is heard and everyone is able to contribute to the Slow Food mission.

A core leadership team works best when it represents a diversity of experiences, skills, perspectives and backgrounds. You are encouraged to add positions if you think additional core leaders will help your chapter accomplish more. However, you don't want to overwhelm the group with too many leaders. A good rule of thumb is 1 leader for every 5 members.

Leadership Board Representatives

All campus chapter leadership boards should have a leader, co-leader, and communications coordinator; optional positions include note-taker, treasurer/fundraising coordinator, events coordinator or any positions relevant to the chapter's projects and activities.

Leader

The chapter's Leader is responsible for the basics of maintaining the chapter including: communicating with the national office and the local Slow Food USA chapter; facilitating chapter meetings; coordinating planning sessions for the chapter's activities; filling out the

annual report; and ensuring that the chapter is working towards changing the food system with ‘good, clean and fair’ in mind.

Co-Leader

The co-leader supports the leader as she/he guides the chapter, but also if and when the leader is unable to fulfill the primary responsibilities of the chapter (listed above) the co-leader will take over. The co-leader oversees any of the optional positions that the chapter decides to fill or committees that are formed.

Communications Coordinator

The chapter’s communications coordinator is the point person for disseminating and publicizing information about the chapter to the campus and surrounding community.

The board should also include the chapter’s faculty or staff advisor. The chapter advisor does not need to attend all meetings or events but should be aware of the chapter’s activities. These positions should be filled at either the very end or very beginning of the academic year.

Events Coordinator

The events coordinator should take the lead in planning and executing all campus events. It is this student’s responsibility to see that the group hosts at least 2-3 events per academic year. They should be prepared to oversee all aspects of planning including locating venues, securing entertainment (speakers and guests, movies, documentaries) and other resources (namely food). At the conclusion of each event the coordinator will be in charge of collecting, organizing and using feedback to improve on future events.

Treasurer

The treasurer will manage the finances. Should your chapter seek extra funds for trips or events, this student will be responsible for locating/applying for that funding.

Running a Successful Chapter

Mission Statement & Goal Setting

Developing A Mission Statement

Every great organization has a strong mission statement that guides their work. Slow Food Campus Chapters are no different! One of the first steps you should take as a new campus

chapter is to craft a clear and concise mission statement that everyone can agree on. While this might seem like an overwhelming task, we have included some guiding questions that will make creating your mission a breeze.

Guiding Questions:

Shared purpose-- What are the values or beliefs that inform your work? What are you all coming together to do? What is your intended impact?

Constituency-- Who are the people you hope to organize, engage, and impact?

Activities--How will you achieve your shared purpose? How do you plan to work toward your vision/goals?

*Setting **SMART** Goals*

Once you've got a mission statement that everyone can agree on, it's time to set some concrete goals, and make them **SMART**.

Specific. Measurable. Attainable. Relevant. Time-bound.

Specific: It's easy to feel overwhelmed when you set vague goals for your chapter. If your goal is "change the food system", it will be impossible for you and your members to know where to start, or exactly what you're asking of each other... Instead, think about the following questions to help you set concrete goals. The more specific, the easier to accomplish!

- What are the specific things we want to change?
- What is the scope of the goal?
- Who is involved/affected?
- Where/when is this all happening?

Measurable: Breakdown each of your goals into measurable milestones. Reaching your goals in steps will keep your group feeling energized and accomplished. Ask your group:

- What does success look like?
- How can we measure our impact with numbers?
- How can we assess the quality of our efforts?
- What can we learn from assessing our progress?

Attainable: There's no point in trying to do the impossible. Your goals should be both achievable and aspirational. Once you've identified what you can do and would like to do, ask your group:

- How can we achieve this goal?
- What are the skills and resources we need?

- What skills and resources do we already have?
- If we don't have certain skills and resources, how can we build them up or partner with others who do?

Relevant: Your time and resources are valuable - so use them wisely. Prioritize and focus on goals that are relevant to your group's mission - your constituency, shared purpose and activities. Ask your group:

- Is this goal aligned with our mission?
- Does it support the change we are trying to create?
- Does it promote Slow Food USA's vision?

Time-bound: You can rally your group to reach the finish line by committing to target dates and deadlines. Establishing a time frame will remind your group of the commitment you've all made to creating change. Ask your group:

- By when should we have reached this goal?
- What marker/target dates should we set along the way?

For example, this is not a **SMART** goal: Offer cooking and gardening workshops to high school students.

This is a SMART goal: 50 high school students participated in at least 3 cooking and gardening workshop developed and facilitated by a core team of 5 chapter members at XYZ community center by summer 2013.

Notice how the SMART goal is written as an achievement and not as a task. It's both fun and important to frame goals as achievements because that's what we intend them to be!

Recruiting: Building a Student Organization & Attracting New Supporters

There is no magic formula for growing and strengthening your membership base, but new supporters will be attracted to delicious food, exciting events, and engaging programs and campaigns planned and executed effectively by the chapter. Here are a few ideas for attracting new members to your group:

- Have a clear and consistent message and goals. Communicate this message effectively and engage



passersby across campus through word of mouth, posterage, social media and any other way you can think of

- Co-sponsor events with other organizations or departments that may not have an obvious relationship with the chapter. This will allow students to explore the connection between their interests and food
- Get permission to put up an “Idea Board” in an area on campus that gets a lot of traffic. You could leave a question, “What should Slow Food XYZ cook for our next potluck?” and encourage students to write their answers on the board
- Plan an impromptu Eat-In in a public space on-campus to attract the attention of students who are not familiar with Slow Food, invite them to join the group for a meal
- Ask a member of the leadership board to write an op-ed piece for the school newspaper, inviting a healthy dialogue that can continue at an upcoming chapter meeting
- Solicit feedback from students who have attended your events: ask what aspects you could improve upon or what they would like to see more of
- Send “Slow Food Ambassadors” to different student groups like dorms, sports teams, student clubs, academic classes etc. to explore potential partnerships
- If it’s in your budget, offer free stickers, magnets or any other swag you can think of
- Host a beginner-gardening day (if your school has a garden/farm) to encourage those with little experience to “dive-in”
- Organize a free potluck that’s open to the entire campus

Facilitating a Successful Meeting

Campus chapter meetings are a great space to discuss the latest news and information about the food movement, plan events and unite food activists while finding allies for change. The most important criterion for facilitating an effective meeting are 1) building an agenda, 2) promoting dialogue, 3) making decisions and of course, enjoying good food together.

Build an agenda

To help organize a meeting, write an agenda. As part of constructing an agenda, consider how long the meeting will last. Will there be enough time to complete discussions of all the agenda items? Make sure all participants are aware of the length of the meeting and have a copy of the

agenda, so that the needs of the agenda are met. And, have a time limit; meetings that drag on are often the root cause of students losing interest.

Promote dialogue

Ensure that the agenda is about building conversation. Meetings should be a safe space for all attendees to participate, to share their ideas, and to provide feedback about past or upcoming projects and programs. The agenda items that are discussed should have a purpose, as a meeting facilitator, know that the goal is to do something active as a result of these conversations.

Make decisions

The facilitator must know how to reach a conclusion. When a meeting ends after a long conversation that does not result in an action plan or a critical decision, students feel confused, disengaged, and frustrated. A key role of a facilitator is to summarize a meeting's contents: give a clear platform from which the student organization can move forward. Meeting conclusions, decisions, and end-points should be transparent to all supporters from the very beginning.

Keep notes and make them available to anyone who is interested after the meeting. These notes along with the three areas of focus will offer chapter meetings a sense of direction, which is important to any successful organization.

Tabling

Campus chapters should take advantage of opportunities both on-campus and in the surrounding community to set up a table and tell people about the Slow Food movement and what the chapter is currently doing to change the local food system. Setting up a table at an event on campus or in the community is an effective way to publicize the chapter, recruit new supporters and raise funds. Here are 5 easy steps to make this experience a success:

Set a goal for your tabling session

Decide on the important points to communicate at your table before the chapter even sets up for the event.

Be strategic

Table at interesting, fun and/or unusual events. In addition to the usual "Student Activities Fair" representing at an unlikely event will help the chapter reach other people and organizations that may not come to a general information session. Once you've selected an event at which the chapter will table, be strategic about where the table is set up. And, when tabling in general,

consider logical and smart locations: outside the dining hall, in a crowded student center or even at a concert.

Equip your table

Make sure it's attractive, eye-catching, and outfitted with whatever literature and printed information is necessary. It always helps to distribute something people can take with them after they've visited the table. Stickers, buttons, and other swag are always popular. Or, local, seasonal, fruits and veggies, anyone?

Train your volunteers

Double-check that everyone knows the necessary information for answering questions about Slow Food and the event or initiative the chapter is promoting. Familiarize your volunteers with your chapter's mission statement and/or goals.



Engage with passersby

Make eye contact, smile, and get their interest with specific relevant questions like “Have you heard about what our campus chapter has been up to this semester?” or “Are you interested in getting more local produce in the dining hall?” At the same time, don't be too pushy. Remember that some people might be interested but will want to browse rather than discuss specific issues. Another way to engage students is to incorporate an interactive component to your table, maybe a small friendly competition, raffle or ‘taste test’.

Events

The best organizations don't just hold meetings, but take action as well. Not every Slow Food event has to be elaborate. The chapter might gather people together informally, maybe a potluck meeting with the sustainability coordinator or a member of the dining services team. These low-key events will maintain the chapter's presence on-campus and increase awareness of food issues in the campus community's consciousness. When planning a large event, check out the How To Guide for Organizing an On-Campus Event.

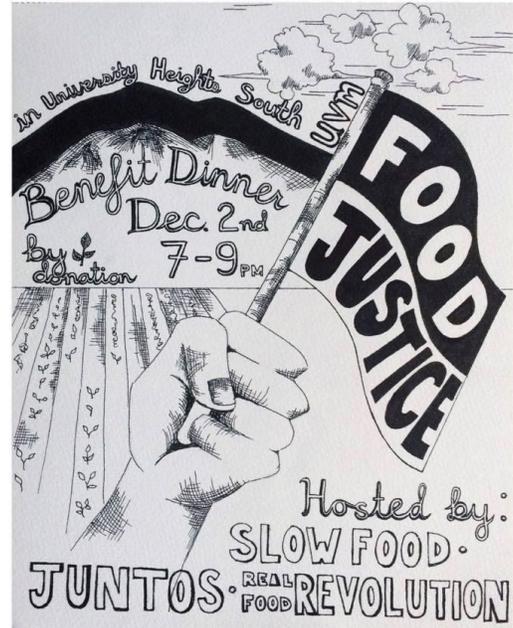
Organizing an On-Campus Event

Brainstorm

Think about what kind of event you'd like to host. Don't rule anything out right away and be as creative as possible. Get inspiration from the amazing events that other Slow Food groups are hosting all over the country [here](#).

The event you're hosting should serve a certain goal. It's up to you and your chapter to decide what that goal might be. For example, you could decide that you would like to raise awareness about the environmental and health benefits of eating in season. Or maybe you would like to start a friendly debate over a particular food issue. One goal that every SFYN (campus event?) should have is to create awareness about how we produce and consume food.

You also want to think about who you're trying to get to attend your event. Maybe you're trying to attract new members. Or maybe you're trying to build a stronger relationship with your community. Try to define this early on, it will help you plan the specifics of your event and how to market it.



Delegate Responsibility

Once your group has a definitive idea for the event, delegate tasks. Make sure everyone in the group has a role they are comfortable with. You could have one or two students in charge of handling the budget, someone in charge of renting a space, another student to create shopping lists. Whatever works for your group! This will help you accomplish more, faster.

Budget

Set a limit for what your group can afford to spend on your event. You can look for funding through your student government association or other groups on campus. Local businesses, farms, companies, other departments on campus may also be willing to donate resources to your event (food or event space, movies, speakers). However, keep in mind that many successful events can be done for free with a little bit of creativity and a dedicated team.

Plan Every Detail



During your planning sessions be sure to map out every detail of the event. It is especially important to plan the logistics. Where will your event be located? How will you get everything you need to your event location? Will you need outlets to plug in stoves/other appliances? Will you need student drivers to pick up and transport food/tables/chairs etc? Do you want music? What will the cleanup look like? Even though it might sounds exhausting, planning every detail ahead of time will ensure that your event runs smoothly.

If you're working with volunteers, make sure you have organized their shifts and responsibilities ahead of time and clearly communicated this with them. You may want to consider creating a timesheet or using an app like Doodle to coordinate everyone's schedules. You may even want to have printed materials for them if they have specific instructions to follow.

Market Your Event

Marketing your event is the single most important thing you can do to ensure its success. It can make or break the entire thing. As a student, there are many platforms you can utilize to advertise your event, both on and off-campus. In addition to Facebook, think about using other social media sites like Instagram or even Snapchat if you can think of a creative way to do so. The printed media can also be a useful tool. Get a school or local newspaper to publish a short article about your event. Postering around campus is always effective as well. The options are endless, choose a few and go spread the word!



Slow Food
UW-MADISON 

What: \$10 for local produce sourced from North Side and South Madison Farmers' Markets

When: Pickup on Monday, November 13th (Order by Saturday, November 11th by Midnight!)

Where: The Crossing (1127 University) 5:00-7:30 pm

Contact: MB.slowfood@gmail.com

Order Now at: squareup.com/store/slow-food-uw

Good. Clean. Fair

Follow Up After the Event

Be sure to thank anyone who helped make your event happen. This includes volunteers, participants, faculty or administrators who supported the event, anyone who helped you advertise for the event, anyone who donated and of course, remember to thank your fellow club members for the work they put in.

For creative ideas for low-key events, check out what other chapters are doing by joining our [Chapter and Community Leader Facebook Group](#).

IDEAS:

- Meatless Monday Campaign in Your Dining Hall

- Slow Fish Campaign in Your Dining Hall
- Friendly Cooking Competitions (Top Chef inspired?)
- Host Community Meals/Potlucks
- Film Screenings
- Host Discussions (Invite Faculty to speak on a specific food-related issue)
- Planned Visits to Local Farms or Farmers Markets
- Start A Small Community Garden on Campus
- Bring a Co-op or CSA to your campus
- Start a Composting Program
- Invite a local chef to do a cooking demonstration
- Compile a Slow Food Cookbook with everyone's favorite recipes
- Host a Disco Soup (we have a toolkit for this) to raise awareness about food waste

Sample Calendar

Any recommendations of important events that we could add to a sample calendar

September - Labor Day (celebrate food and agricultural workers' rights)

October 24 - Food Day (inspire people to change their diets and our food policies)

December 10 - Terra Madre Day

April - Earth Day (celebrate sustainability on campus and in agriculture)



Communications

As the Slow Food movement continues to gain momentum, communicating the stories of our chapters is increasingly important. Whether the chapter is communicating with the campus or local community through social media, flyers/other on-campus marketing materials, or letters to the editor, it is important to be clear, succinct and engaging.

On campus, clear, enthusiastic, regular communication is a must. Make sure the chapter Leader and Communications Coordinator are staying in touch with new and existing supporters.

Use Social Media

Social media is an effective way to advertise, recruit, and keep the community up to date on your events and things you're doing. You are encouraged to create your own Facebook page for your campus chapter. Also, think about using Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat (especially for events)



and any other social media you see fit. You could even create a Youtube channel to record various talks or demonstrations that you will host.

Use Existing Media Channels

A school newspaper? Student Affairs bulletins or newsletters? Campus Radio stations? Also don't be afraid to reach out to the wider community (e.g. local newspaper). Encourage supporters to write about what the chapter is working on or talking about to drum up interest in Slow Food and the chapter's upcoming events or programs.

The communications coordinator should take the lead on promoting the chapter and creating awareness of food issues on-campus and in the community but should not be afraid to ask for help from the leader, co-leader, advisor or fellow supporters. Campus chapters are doing amazing work to change the food system and success stories should be told whenever possible. Also, expect to hear from the Slow Food USA national office, as we will want to help tell the chapter's stories as well.

Dealing with Challenges as They Arise

As a chapter leader, it's inevitable that you'll deal with challenges from time to time. Many chapters run into personality conflicts, leader disagreements, tension with community partners, failed projects, loss of leaders or funding, and more. When you run into challenges, need a sounding board, or are looking for some guided direction, here are some resources you can turn to for help:

- Your first line of support is your **State Governor**, a former chapter leader who coordinates and supports Slow Food activities in your region. Please keep in mind that State Governors are volunteers like you, and their experiences as chapter leaders will vary. If your state does not have a Governor, contact a Governor in a neighboring state.
- You can also connect with other leaders, ask questions, share ideas, and solicit advice on the **Slow Food USA Facebook page**. The **Leader Resource** page includes a list of leadership tools, including advice for team building, partnerships, conflict resolution, and more.
- For help with administrative issues, leadership, fundraising advice, and more, you can contact the national office at **chapters@slowfoodusa.org**. We're not always experts on every issue, but we can connect you with other chapter leaders who are.

Building Partnerships On & Off Campus

Campus Chapters are strongly encouraged to connect with local Slow Food chapters and other organizations in the community. Many Campus groups have worked closely with local chapters,

international chapters and other community organizations like food banks, local markets and farmers themselves.

On-Campus

Be creative when it comes to forming alliances on campus. Having an open mind and seeking interesting connections between...

Examples:

- Host a community discussion about a hot food issue (GMOs, School Lunches) and invite a professor to facilitate (Hamilton College)

Off-Campus

Several Campus Chapters work closely with Local SF Chapters. Since many local chapters engage youth through their school and community initiatives, partnering up around programming, campaigns or events is a great opportunity for students to connect with peers and for local chapters to support student leadership. To get in touch with a nearby local chapter go to <http://www.slowfoodusa.org/find-local-chapters>.

In the past, Campus Chapters have engaged with the local community by:

- Hosting a “Yoga on the Farm” event at a local farm (Hamilton College)
- Invite local chefs to participate in a “Cooking in the Dorms’ demonstration (Colorado College)
- Disco Soup Days

Retaining Members

- Maintain clear, enthusiastic and regular communication .
- Listen to what your members want. Ask them via survey or a conversation.
- Create teams/committees that enable members to invest in and contribute to the chapter’s success.
- Build strong relationships and open communication between leaders and members.
- Thank members for their time and contributions: Have a yearly retreat.
- Have members take turns facilitating a meeting.
- Set SMART goals, have fun reaching them, and celebrate successes by thanking people for their efforts!
- Organize trips to conferences where members can learn new skills and ideas.
- Establish a mentor system (i.e. seasoned members pair up with new members to discuss key food issues).

- Have small group discussions at meetings to deepen relationships between members.
- Encourage campus chapter members to become a student member of Slow Food USA so that they can receive national updates . <http://www.slowfoodusa.org/membership>

Stay in touch with the local Slow Food USA chapter (if one exists in your area). The chapter may have upcoming opportunities or events that student supporters may volunteer with or attend. Strengthening the relationship between the campus chapter and the local Slow Food USA chapter will remind student supporters that the Slow Food USA network exists beyond campus and is something that students can stay involved with post-graduation.

Finances

The national Slow Food Office is not able to provide funding to Campus Chapters. **** Campus chapters sometimes struggle to find funding for their activities throughout the year. This should never discourage a chapter from continuing to come up with creative ways to make a big splash with a little cash. Here are a couple of suggestions for generating some more money in the bank:

Securing Funds from School

All campus chapters should be registered on-campus with the host college or university's office of clubs and organizations. Please make sure to register each fall and complete any necessary paperwork that is required. On-campus registration may lead to funding from the host college or university, and we would hate to have any chapter miss out on an opportunity to receive start-up funds. We recommend chapters utilize any start-up cash received from their college or university for a larger scale project, program or event. The Student Activities Office or Student Government may also be able to provide funding throughout the year, be sure to stay in touch with them and inquire about opportunities and applying for funding.

Donations

Campus chapters may think about adding a suggested donation to events that would otherwise be free, like a movie screening or speaker, to generate some extra money (especially for off-campus community members). Chapters might also consider purchasing items, like plants or seeds, which can be resold at an event for a bit more than the original asking price. Additionally, students often work with local businesses to have items or gift certificates donated for auctions. Be creative and strategic when making relationships with businesses and organizations on-campus and in the community.

Branding Guidelines

As Campus Chapter Leaders, you have the opportunity to and the responsibility of representing Slow Food USA and International. Once you register as an official chapter, you will be given your own SF email address and logo, both customized for your school. It is important that you use any branding materials we provide you with in accordance with the organization's guidelines. We strongly recommend that SFYN chapters check out and abide by the branding guidelines.

The names "Slow Food", "Slow Food USA" and the snail logo are all registered trademarks of Slow Food International (SFI)—an international organization of which Slow Food USA is a part. Given this, the national office is in charge of monitoring the use of the Slow Food logo in the U.S. This is why we ask that all SFOC chapters sign the Logo Use Agreement before they are officially recognized as a chapter.

Some key guidelines to remember:

- Your student chapter is authorized to use the words "Slow Food" only as part of your student chapter name, in your printed materials, and in the promotion of Slow Food USA and Slow Food on Campus initiatives and programs
- You are permitted to use the chapter logo and @slowfoodusa.org email address provided, which incorporates the Slow Food name, in your printed and electronic materials, but it must be used with the same font and logo and cannot be changed
- The color, size and font of the logo must not be altered
- In the case your chapter has a special need to use the Slow Food USA logo, you must secure special authorization from the Slow Food USA national office.

Please refer to the full [Slow Food Branding Guidelines document](#) for more information.

Staying Connected to the Slow Food USA/International Network

Among Slow Food's many goals is to foster connections in the global food system, so take advantage of these connections and opportunities!

The national staff reports directly to the Slow Food USA Board of Directors and connects with State Governors and Chapter Leaders via monthly conference calls, regular emails, and on a day-to-day basis. In addition, we organize national meetings and in-person gatherings to connect leaders in the Slow Food community including the National Congress, held once every four years.

The national office team consists of the employees, interns, and volunteers working for Slow Food USA in Brooklyn, NY and Denver, CO. If you have any questions - feel free to shoot us an email at chapters@slowfoodusa.org and we will do what we can to help you!

The [biography and contact information of each national staff member](#) is available on SlowFoodUSA.org.

Here are some of the ways that the National Office can support you and help you stay connected:

- Access to Leader Links (a monthly e-newsletter for Slow Food leaders across the country) sign up here: <https://www.slowfoodusa.org/sign-up-for-leader-links-email>
- Ideas and inspiration for marketing materials that you can distribute at your SF Events
- Connections to an extensive social media network
 - Slow Food Community and Chapter Leader Facebook Group
 - “Like” Slow Food USA on Facebook, Follow us on Twitter and Instagram
- Shared stories about what other chapters are up to
- Official Campus logo and email address
- Leader Resources page: <https://www.slowfoodusa.org/leader-resources>
 - Monthly leader calls
 - Toolkits
 - Informational material

FAQ (or Appendix? Not sure what would be most helpful)

Q: What makes campus chapters different from local chapters?

A: While Slow Food Campus Chapters are considered on equal footing with all local chapters of the Slow Food USA network, there are a few unique circumstances under which they operate.

1) Audience - campus chapters have a unique opportunity to address the concerns of the youth who are building tomorrow’s food system one bite at a time.

2) Tax stuff - campus chapters do not need to request an EIN from the IRS, and therefore are not included in Slow Food USA’s Group EIN which would allow them to fundraise as a part of the national non-profit organization. Campus chapters wishing to engage in fundraising should do so under their educational institution, and consult with their faculty advisor as to how the school would like them to report this fundraising.

Q: What’s the annual chapter survey?

A: The annual chapter survey is sent out to all chapters at the end of the year. We want to hear about your chapter's exciting events and programs from the past year. Annual chapter reports help us tell the story of Slow Food across the country by highlighting what chapters are doing on

the ground. It's also your chance to tell us how to contact you, what's working and what's not. It is compiled by the SFUSA national office and shared with SFOC leaders in June of each year.

*anymore questions?

General design outline

-similar background to the chapter handbook?