



[www.drexel.edu/usga](http://www.drexel.edu/usga)

USGA Resolution: Cage-Free Drexel

**WHEREAS, Drexel Dining Services**, through its food services provider, Sodexo, maintain expectations that their suppliers “raise livestock with the greatest respect for their needs and comfort;”<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS, Drexel Green** was created to “further sustainable practices” of the University;<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Over 350 other universities in the United States, including other local Sodexo schools such as Ursinus and Rowan, have already switched to cage-free eggs;

**WHEREAS**, The eggs from egg-laying hens purchased by **Drexel University** through Sodexo are confined in wire battery cages so small that each hen has less space than a sheet of paper to live its entire life, and cannot even spread its wings or engage in natural behaviors;

**WHEREAS**, Battery cage egg farms have a destructive impact on the environment and are condemned by national environmental groups like the Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council

**WHEREAS**, Battery cage egg farms pose at least a 2.5 times greater risk of salmonella poisoning than cage-free eggs<sup>3</sup>, have been condemned by the Center for Food Safety and the Consumer Federation of America, and the **Drexel College of Nursing and Health Professions** has submitted a letter of intent to publish a policy paper later this month urging the university to go cage-free for health reasons;

**WHEREAS**, The **Drexel Dining Services and USGA** have encouraged students to show their support for the switch to cage-free eggs and they have;

**WHEREAS**, A USGA-requested survey found 97% of polled **Drexel University** students would like the school to switch to purchasing solely cage free eggs, and 86% of students (and 88% of freshmen) would be willing to pay at least \$5.00 more on their meal plan per quarter for the university to go cage-free;

**WHEREAS**, Over 4,000 **Drexel University** students and faculty have signed a petition calling on the university to go cage-free, and over 1,500 students have submitted letters to **Drexel Dining Services** asking for a switch to cage-free and stating a recognition of the slight cost increase;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the **Drexel USGA** strongly encourages the switch to cage-free whole and liquid eggs to promote the humane treatment of animals, the health and well being of **Drexel University’s** students and faculty, and to further the University’s commitment to sustainability through **Drexel Green**.

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the **Drexel USGA** strongly suggest that **Drexel Dining Services** makes the switch for the **Handschumacher Dining Hall ONLY**. It should be encouraged for **Drexel University** to make the ENTIRE switch (Chestnut Street Catering and Retailed locations) to Cage-Free as it is something that the students want.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.sdxdining2.com/social/recycleinfo.html#fa>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.drexel.edu/green/default.asp>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.ciwf.org.uk/resources/publications/human\\_health/default.aspx](http://www.ciwf.org.uk/resources/publications/human_health/default.aspx)