FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Duke Dining to Host 1st Annual Deliberate Dining Festival

Duke Dining is committed to operating in a manner that improves the health of the Duke community, reduces negative environmental impacts, and strengthens the local food system and has created the Deliberate Dining Project, working purposefully to fully implement a sustainable program. Duke Dining continually strives to provide the Duke community world class quality food that will benefit their health and well being and continues to analyze how and where our food is grown and raised, processed, transported, prepared and discarded as these items have health, environmental, social and economical impacts.

The Deliberate Dining Festival is a celebration and awareness of Duke Dining’s Deliberate Dining Project, which aims to teach the campus about Duke Dining’s commitment to sustainability and to provide a space where organizations from across campus, as well as the greater Durham area, can gather to share information about their work related to food and sustainability. Marcus Carson, Duke Dining’s Sustainability and Quality Assurance Manager said, “Duke Dining has been building a culture of sustainability in its operations over the last 5 years, but we’ve recently taken a big step forward in establishing clear priorities with measurable goals. The Deliberate Dining Festival is meant to communicate the work that Duke Dining is doing around sustainability and to highlight how other organizations on and off Duke’s campus are addressing food and sustainability issues. And with our veggie burger competition, the festival is an opportunity to highlight the culinary talent we have on campus.”

Duke Dining introduced its Veggie Burger Competition, which took place in early March, as a lead-in to the Festival and included 13 of Duke Dining’s venues facing off with their best veggie and/or vegan burgers. The final round of the Veggie Burger Competition will take place at the Deliberate Dining Festival with the five finalists offering samples of their entries. A panel of judges will name the competition champion, and a “crowd favorite” award will also be named.

Executive Director of Duke Dining, Robert Coffey said, “Our team has worked hard to create the best dining program in the country, and our Deliberate Dining Project encompasses all that we strive to achieve with our sustainability initiatives. We will continue to provide state-of-the-art facilities, cutting-edge menus and true authentic flavors. It’s our mission to continue to provide a world-class dining program.”

The Deliberate Dining Festival will take place on Wednesday, April 4th from 11:00am-2:00pm at Penn Pavilion, located at Campus Center on Duke’s West Campus.