

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Washington, D.C.

The Faculty Senate

April 4, 2013

The Faculty Senate will meet on Friday, April 12, 2013 at 2:10 p.m. in the State Room, 1957 E Street, N.W., 7th Floor

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Short recess for the purpose of having a group photograph taken of the 2012-13 Faculty Senate
3. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of March 8, 2013 (minutes to be distributed)
4. Introduction of Resolutions
5. Report on Diversifying the Faculty: Vice Provost Reed
6. General Business:
 - a) Nominations for election of the following faculty members to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee for the 2013-14 Session
[Professor Charles A. Garris, Jr , Convener of the Nominating Committee]

Professor Scheherazade Rehman (SB) as Chair;

Professors Kimberly Acquaviva (SON), Gregg Brazinsky (ESIA), Robert Harrington (SEAS), Paula Lantz (SPHHS), Sylvia Marotta (GSEHD); David McAleavey (CCAS), and Edward Swaine (GWLS).

(As the School of Medicine and Health Sciences has not yet held its elections, this nomination will be made at the May 10th Senate meeting)
 - b) Nominations for election of faculty members to the Dispute Resolution Committee: Professor Joan E. Schaffner for a three-year term to end May 1, 2016 (other nominees to be announced)
 - c) Nomination for re-appointment by the President of Professor Steve Charnovitz as Parliamentarian for the 2013-14 Session
 - d) Report of the Executive Committee: Michael S. Castleberry, Chair
 - e) Annual Reports of Senate Standing Committees
(The Senate Libraries Committee report is attached.)
 - f) Tributes to retiring faculty who have served on the Faculty Senate

- g) Provost's Remarks
- h) Chair's Remarks
- 7. Brief Statements (and Questions)
- 8. Adjournment

Elizabeth A. Amundson
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Secretary

Senate Libraries Committee Report, 2012-2013 (April 2, 2013)

This has been a busy year for the GW Libraries. The Provost's committee conducting a strategic review of GW Libraries, which came into being because of recommendations from the Senate Libraries Committee, has been working throughout year; some of that committee's activities have been reported to the Senate as part of an interim report earlier this semester. Additionally, GW is seeking a new University Librarian to replace Jack Siggins, who retired at the end of last summer. Of course, Gelman is also undergoing a substantial remodeling.

The Libraries Committee has met with the Librarians' Council, which provided fresh perspective on issues affecting Gelman in particular. We recommend that such joint meetings occur at least annually.

The Libraries Committee also met with the two outside consultants (Karin Wittenborg from UVa and Jim Neal from Columbia) brought in by the Strategic Review Committee, in what was a watershed kind of event: hearing their candid assessment of Gelman strengthened the Libraries Committee's resolve to make sure that the Provost's committee produces a report that will result in decisive action to address the needs of the University. The strategic review committee has also crafted a survey asking faculty and graduate students about their use of Gelman and its adequacy for their teaching and research; that too will play a role in shaping the final report this committee sends to the Provost.

The Senate needs to be aware of the serious problems we face with our library resources, and needs to continue to work with the administration to see that in this area we are making progress commensurate with our aspirations. Among other things, next year's Libraries Committee should study the final report of the Provost's strategic review committee, and report to the Senate on its statement of goals and recommendations, as well as on what actions the administration takes to address them.

In a separate matter, the Libraries Committee considered a request from Gelman librarians that the Senate support a librarian (currently working at McMaster's University) threatened with a lawsuit by a publisher unhappy with his blog-posted characterizations of the quality of the press. Unable to devote enough time to the issues to formulate an independent, objective assessment, the Committee decided not to pursue the matter at the moment, although it recognizes that a publisher attempting to curtail the speech of an academic librarian through legal intimidation is serious business; the Committee may return to this issue in the coming year.

David McAleavey, Chair; faculty members: Vincy Fon, Simon Berkovich, Richard Stott, Chunlei Liang; ex officio members: Vice Provost Steve Ehrmann (for Provost Lerman), Scott Pagel (Law Library), Anne Linton (Himmelfarb Library), Andrea Stewart (GW Libraries)