

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
Washington, D.C.

The Faculty Senate

April 28, 2011

The Faculty Senate will meet on Friday, May 6, 2011, at 2:10 p.m. in the State Room, 1957 E Street, N.W., 7th Floor.

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of April 8, 2011 (minutes to be distributed)
3. Introduction of newly-elected and re-elected Senate members
4. Introduction of Resolutions
5. Update on the Science and Engineering Complex: Professor Hermann Helgert, Co-Chair, SEC Space Committee
6. General Business
 - (a) Approval of dates for regular Senate meetings in the 2011-12 Session recommended by the Executive Committee as follows:

September 9, 2011	January 13, 2012
October 14, 2011	February 10, 2012
November 11, 2011	March 9, 2012
December 9, 2011	April 13, 2012

May 11, 2012 (first meeting, 2012-13 session)
 - (b) Nominations for election of Chairs and members of Faculty Senate Standing Committees for the 2011-12 Session (list to be distributed)
 - (c) Nominations for appointment of faculty members by the Board of Trustees to the following Trustees' Committees:

Committee on Advancement: Joseph J. Cordes; Committee on Academic Affairs: Michael S. Castleberry; Committee on Student Affairs: Alan G. Wade

- (d) Nominations for appointment by the President of the following faculty members to Administrative Committees:

Joint Committee of Faculty and Students: Professor Alan G. Wade, Faculty Co-Chair; Professors Hartmut Doebel, Jennifer Halvaksz, Vivek Jain, Amy Mazur, Jocelyn Rapelyea, and Edward Robinson

University Hearing Board: Professors Ozgur Ekmekci and Mikyong M. Kim

Marvin Center Governing Board: Professor Leonard Friedman

Marvin Center Program Board: Professor Carmen Gomez

Student Grievance Review Committee: Professor Joseph L. Bocchino, Joan Butler, Ellen Costello, Vivek Jain, Jennifer Halvaksz, Maureen Kuletz, Venetia L. Orcutt, Edward Robinson, Richard Ruth, and Catherine Turley

- (e) Report of the Executive Committee: Michael S. Castleberry, Chair
- (f) Tributes to retiring faculty members who have served on the Senate
- (g) Annual Reports of Senate Standing Committees (Report of the Senate Committee on Libraries attached)
- (h) Chair's Remarks
7. Brief Statements (and Questions)
8. Adjournment

Elizabeth A. Amundson
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Secretary

Attachment

**FACULTY SENATE LIBRARIES COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE 2010-11 SESSION**

As previously reported, in Fall 2010 the Committee heard a presentation about the anticipated renovation of Gelman's main entry floor, and received the disturbing news that Gelman's acquisitions budget has seen no increase for six years. (As it turns out, the Committee had in recent years drafted two different resolutions calling for Administration action to address this problem, but those resolutions, calling for specific funding levels or mechanisms, had never come to the attention of the full Senate.)

A resolution urging the Administration to remedy the growing weakness of Gelman, beginning with a study of the probable research/instructional library needs of the University over the next ten to twenty years, was drafted and would have been considered at a March meeting of the Committee, but President Knapp suggested to the Senate's Executive Committee that this seemed an important need which ought to be undertaken, and that no Senate resolution should be needed. Thus the Committee did not meet to consider the draft resolution.

At its meeting on April 18, 2011, the Committee received a presentation from Librarian Siggins and his associates regarding the architect's proposals for Gelman renovations. All four schemes under consideration would appear to make significant improvements to the main library's usability and efficiency, and all would enhance the impression Gelman makes on visitors and the University community.

Three of the four proposed schemes relocate Gelman's main entrance to Kogan Plaza, which the Committee believes makes both practical and esthetic sense. Of these three schemes, one suggests a lowered entrance leading into the first floor; one suggests a higher entrance, leading into the second floor; and the final proposal suggests adding an entry structure or pavilion, leading again to the second floor. (In these last two proposals, the floor which would be most thoroughly remodeled to provide additional seating and a wider variety of congenial study areas would be the second floor; the first floor would later be reconfigured so as to accommodate library operations necessarily removed from the current second floor.)

All three of the Kogan Plaza-entry proposals include somewhat lengthy access ramps for handicapped access, a problem that appears quite serious to the Committee, especially with regard to the otherwise esthetically-appealing proposals suggesting a second-story entry. The Committee was told that the Library and the architects are well aware of the need to find an improved approach to this problem.

The faculty members of the Committee who were present voted unanimously to support the fourth proposal, which calls for the addition of an entry pavilion incorporating a new entry to the second floor, even though we were told that it is (naturally) the most expensive option under review. The impact on the University of

renovating Gelman in the manner proposed by this option would appear to be the most profound; a new sense of being at the heart of the campus would arise, it seems to us, from these renovations.

The Committee also endorsed the idea of a study group charged with crafting a master plan for enhancing Gelman and its affiliated libraries so as to meet the anticipated future research and teaching needs of the faculty and the learning needs of our students. It is our understanding that Provost Lerman will see that this study group is established.

The Committee imagines the study group will include faculty, students, and members of the administration; will rely on the expert guidance of the Librarian; and will have a budget adequate to solicit external expert opinion as well as the views of our own community, so that the desired results may be obtained. That study group, we believe, ought to report to multiple stakeholders, including the Faculty (through the Libraries Committee and the Faculty Senate). The work of the study group needs to be completed within a year (more quickly if possible), and should result in a plan to increase the Libraries' budget amply enough to raise the stature of Gelman and the affiliated libraries on the Mount Vernon and Northern Virginia campuses so that they are on a par with the level of the University's overall ambition and ranking. At the moment, our holdings put us near the bottom of all the U.S. ARL libraries (basically last place out of some one hundred university libraries). We have a long way to go, but need to be as smart and informed as possible about what resources are likely to be required in the decades ahead.

Submitted for the Committee by David McAleavey (ENGL), Chair
April 20, 2011

Committee members: Simon Berkovich (SEAS), Vincy Fon (ECON), Carmen Gomez (TRDA), Valentina Harizanov (MATH), Kathy Larsen (UWP)

Ex officio: Jack Siggins (Librarian), Scott Pagel (Law Library), Anne Linton (Himmelfarb), Cheryl Beil (Provost's office), Danika Brown (SA), Bruce Dickson (Executive Committee liaison)