

**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**November 08, 2024**  
**President Granberg's Report**

It's only been a week since Provost Bracey and I both gave fairly robust updates at the Faculty Assembly, and I know we have several important reports from Bruno, Rumana, and the EPT committee on the agenda today, so I will keep my remarks brief.

As you know, earlier this week, our nation and the GW community participated in the 2024 presidential election. By voting, volunteering at polling stations, providing expert commentary, and running for elected office, our community members played important roles in the time-honored tradition of American democracy.

I am proud to share that 10 GW alumni were elected to public office this week, with one race still to be determined. This will likely bring the total number of alumni in the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress to 13.

I want to reiterate that the outcome of this election—like all elections—is a cause for celebration for some in our community and has left others upset or disappointed. Over the days, weeks, and months to come, our community will continue to process the outcomes and discuss our nation's future.

As I shared on Tuesday, passionate debate and principled argument should and will continue to drive these conversations. And yet, as we navigate this national transition in GW's classrooms, community spaces, and residence halls, I hope everyone will join me in modeling what it means to be an engaged, passionate, and respectful community of citizens, leaders, and scholars.

I know there are many questions and concerns about what a Trump administration means for GW and higher education in the United States. Right now, we are working closely with our GW offices, university partners, and peer organizations to monitor and assess this shifting landscape and what that means for us. We will continue to keep you updated as this picture takes shape.

What I can tell you today is that the George Washington University has always been committed to providing a world-class education, producing groundbreaking research and scholarship, perpetuating the free exchange of big ideas, and providing an inclusive, supportive, and equitable environment for all our community members. Nothing about a new administration will ever alter or change those commitments, and we will always do absolutely everything we can, within the boundaries of the law, to act on our priorities, uphold our principles, and protect our community.

In related news, as we consider our university's unique position at the heart of American democracy, I am pleased to share that I recently joined the College Presidents for Civic Preparedness, an initiative from the Institute for Citizens & Scholars. By joining this nationally recognized group, GW joins over 100 institutions that are publicly committed to preparing young people for productive citizenship in a democracy, defending free expression, civil discourse, and critical inquiry as essential civic norms, and increasing thoughtful engagement and understanding. We also gain access to campus-specific programming to advance these civic commitments, including courses, speakers, student orientations, technology tools, and voter education initiatives.

In addition, I will meet regularly with other participating presidents to exchange information, best practices, and tools on topics such as student activism, free expression and civil discourse in the classroom, and civic preparedness in higher education. I look forward to sharing more as these meetings get underway.

Next, I want to highlight the newly formed Humanitarian Internship Pilot Program (HIPP), which I mentioned at last week's Faculty Assembly. This program, developed by the Office of the President in partnership with GW's Center for Career Services, is designed to harness our students' energy, dedication, and expertise to tackle pressing global challenges.

The program will partner with national and international humanitarian support organizations to place GW undergraduate and graduate students in a wide range of internships that address various humanitarian needs across different issues and contexts. A formal announcement will be made in the coming months, and a call for student applications will be released in early 2025, with the inaugural cohort of HIPP interns selected for the Summer 2025 session. Student selection and placement will be determined through a matching process overseen by a selection committee of GW staff and faculty. Kelley Bishop has sent invitations to several faculty members, but if anyone here is interested in participating, please let him or me know. I look forward to sharing more information soon. Work on this initiative has been underway for some time, and I was pleased to see that it closely aligned with the recommendations of the Humanitarian Efforts Summer Faculty Working Group.

Earlier this week, Provost Bracey and I held a reception to thank all our working group members, and I want to take a moment now to specifically thank Senators Jennifer Brinkerhoff, Ilana Feldman, David Rain, James Tielsch, Amita Vyas, Arthur Wilson, and Phil Wirtz for their work on these important efforts.

And speaking of world-class faculty, I would also like to take a moment to congratulate Dr. Anton N. Sidawy, GW's Lewis B. Saltz Chair of Surgery, on becoming President-Elect of the American College of Surgeons. For those who don't know, the ACS is the world's largest surgical organization. With a 110-year legacy of excellence and nearly 90,000 members across 144 countries, it is dedicated to delivering evidence-based surgical care and education and partners with more than 2,500 hospitals to advance surgical care standards and innovation. We are incredibly fortunate and proud to have Dr. Sidawy as a leader, educator, and practitioner at GW, and the ACS will benefit greatly from his expertise.

Finally, I would like to conclude today by thanking the EPT Committee for their thoughtful and thorough analysis of our strategic framework process. The committee's recommendations on how we might best measure and evaluate the success of our strategic framework moving forward will provide important context for our development discussions. I look forward to hearing their complete findings in just a few minutes.

Thank you, everyone. That concludes my report today, and I will open the floor to questions.