



Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate Committee on Research

Interim Report AY 2024-2025

Members:

Karen McDonnell (GWSPH; co-chair), Kausik Sarkar (SEAS; cochair); Tarek El-Ghazawi (FSEC Liaison); Voting Members: Jamie Cohen-Cole, Oleg Kargaltsev, Yishen Peng, Ellen Yeung(CCAS); John Warren (CPS); Matthew Shirrell (GSEHD); Yixin Lu (GWSB); Kate Applebaum, Nirbay Kumar, Manya Magnus, Keith Crandall (GWSPH); Matt Kay, Peng Wei (SEAS); Luyao Lu, Alberto Bosque-Pardos, Michael Bukrinsky, Mardi Gomberg-Maitland, Laura Abate, (SMHS); Christine Pintz, Sherrie Wallington, Maritza Dowling, (SON). All ADR's and OVPR leadership serve as active non-voting members of the committee

Meetings:

Meetings of the full committee are held monthly on the second Friday from 12:15-1:45pm ET. Agenda items are gathered from the committee and added to the standard agenda. New items are welcomed from the floor at each meeting.

Charge:

The charge from the FSEC for AY 2024-2025 was reviewed and subcommittees were developed to coincide with each charge. Voting members were asked to respond to a confidential Qualtrics poll rank ordering each of the subcommittees for active participation. Each subcommittee is comprised of 5-8 voting committee members and additional volunteers from the non-voting members. The subcommittees were charged at the November meeting to meet and put forth an initial landscape analysis to inform the activities for the Spring semester. The four subcommittees include:

1. GW Research Infrastructure: Evaluate how GW's research infrastructure needs to be enhanced to support the university's reputational ambitions (including its AAU membership), paying particular attention to the range of disciplines and types of research requiring various types of infrastructure support.
2. Measuring Research Impact: Developing mechanisms to measure research impacts to help effectively communicate GW's research accomplishments in a variety of areas.
3. GW Strategic Framework: Proactively engage with the strategic planning process as the framework is developed this year.
4. Graduate Student Funding: With input from the Fiscal Planning & Budgeting committee around financial details, address the stagnation of graduate support lines at the university and propose new creative models to support more graduate students for research-active faculty.

Formal Recognition for Dr. Pamela Norris

FSRC would like to formally acknowledge and expresses its deep appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Pamela Norris for her considerable, strategic, and highly effective service to the research and scholarly mission of the University, and the people engaged therein.

Pam Norris served with great distinction as the Vice Provost of Research of the George Washington University since November 1, 2021 and as Vice Provost for Research, has displayed extraordinary discernment, ingenuity, perseverance, transparency, kindness, optimism, and leadership in steering the Office of the Vice Provost for Research through recovery from restructuring and pandemic losses, and has commanded the trust of the faculty, students, and staff because of her transparent and collaborative style.

Dr. Norris, has focused on bottom-up development and support of faculty research and scholarly efforts in an extremely resource-constrained environment, developing training opportunities such as the “Spark to Impact” series; inviting new faculty to small-group lunches to help launch their career at GW; engaging in strong and strategic support for the development and success of large endeavors such as the NIST PREP award; partnering with consortium universities and seeking external funding to enhance the core research facilities in support of GW PIs; and launching highly appreciated twice-yearly three-day writing retreats to support scholarly endeavors.

Dr. Norris has expanded the support for research development at GW, hiring a new Research Development Officer, and forging strategic partnerships with Hanover and Lewis Burke to help faculty find and effectively apply for support for their research.

Dr. Norris has engaged with offices across GW to help them to understand the impact of their activities upon research and partner with those offices to remove roadblocks to research, such as the waiving of venue fees for research events of strategic importance.

Dr. Norris has worked to strategically restructure GW’s research compliance infrastructure to meet both the needs of the changing regulatory environment and the aspirations of our researchers, creating a new organizational structure which fits within the envelope of available human resources and into which we are now recruiting staff.

Dr. Norris has significantly enhanced the external research communications strategy of GW by efforts such as, broadening the dissemination of the GW Research Magazine and sending a quarterly and end-of-year newsletter; hosting a booth and workshop at the AAAS meeting; coordinating a “Celebration of Academic Excellence Symposium” as part of the Presidential Inauguration; sponsoring an annual gathering of the DC Science Writers; hosting a recording of the popular radio program, “Science Fridays”; and partnering with the embassies of France, Germany, Italy and Children’s National Research Institution to plan a week-long celebration in advance of the United Nations’ International Day of Women and Girls in Science in 2023.

Dr. Norris, through the forgoing and myriad other activities and efforts, has helped restore and expand GW’s research portfolio, as evidenced by GW’s Federal Research expenditures increasing by 17.7% from \$166M in FY2023 to \$195M in FY2024, with an overall increase of 14.6% (\$206M to \$236M).