



**Faculty Senate December Meeting  
Provost Bracey Report  
Friday, December 13, 2024**

Good afternoon. It is wonderful to see you all for the final Faculty Senate meeting of the calendar year, and as such, I will keep this short and sweet.

*End of Semester Notes*

First, a few notes about the end of the semester.

We are focused on helping our students finish the semester strong. As many students are in the midst of final exams, stress and anxiety are high. Vice Provost and Dean Colette Coleman and I sent an encouraging message to students earlier this week with information about Academic Commons, Lerner Health and Wellness, and more.

Of course, you would have also seen a message from me this week with thanks for your continued engagement and commitment to GW. As part of that message, I shared a brief reminder about grading. Faculty are required to submit final grades within five (5) business days after the final examination or after the final class meeting if no exam is given. Final grades should be submitted no later than Tuesday, December 24.

*Strategic Framework*

As you know, the strategic framework process continues. Since mid-November, we have held eight conversations with faculty and staff groups, and just this week we hosted two engaging student conversations. These conversations have given participants a status update on the strategic framework process and an opportunity to review and discuss some of the ideas submitted by community members for consideration.

The information gleaned from all these conversations will inform the Innovation Committee's draft report that it will submit to the Steering Committee. I would like to thank the Innovation Committee, Steering Committee and all members of the community who have participated in these crucial conversations, and we look forward to next steps in this process in the spring semester.

*School of Business Dean Search*

We recently hosted several impressive School of Business dean candidates on campus to meet with various groups of stakeholders and are hopeful about a positive outcome of this search. I would like to thank the search committee for all their hard work throughout this search process. The School of Business benefits immensely from their commitment.

### *School of Public Health Dean Search*

Regarding the search for the new Milken Institute School of Public Health, we have met with search firms and have identified a firm to manage the national search, which we aim to launch in the new year. The public health full-time faculty will work quickly to elect its members to serve on the dean search committee, at which point I will discuss with the committee which additional members representing other stakeholder groups (e.g., trustees, students, and alumni) should be invited to join as per the Faculty Code. Once the additional stakeholder representatives have been confirmed, I will charge the full committee, and we will formally launch the search.

I want to thank Dean Goldman for graciously agreeing to remain as dean until the new dean begins, ensuring a smooth transition of leadership.

### *Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement Search*

Regarding the search for a vice provost for diversity, equity and community engagement, we have chosen a search firm and are looking to launch this search in the new year.

### *Graduate Assistant Unionization*

As you are aware, on November 12 and 13, eligible graduate teaching, instructional, and research assistants had an opportunity to participate in an election facilitated by the National Labor Relations Board. A majority of graduate assistants who voted in the election voted in favor of unionization.

GW is currently assembling a bargaining team to meet with the graduate student union, and we anticipate that bargaining will begin sometime during the spring semester. We will continue to work diligently with our graduate assistants to ensure that they have a meaningful and successful graduate experience at GW, and we look forward to their continued contributions to our scholarly community.

This concludes my report, and I am happy to answer any questions.