



**Faculty Senate Standing Committee on Physical Facilities  
Annual Report, Academic Year 2022-2023**

**Submitted By Co-Chairs:**

Eric Grynaviski (CCAS) and John Traub (CCAS)

**Committee Members:**

Eric Grynaviski, Chair (CCAS)\*

John Traub, Co-Chair (CCAS)

Robert Zeman, Faculty Senate Executive Committee Liaison (SMHS)\*

Demetrius Apostolis (GWSA)\*\*

Thomas Choate (GWSB)

Katie Cloud (Interim Registrar)\*\*

Colette Coleman (Vice Provost, Dean of Students)\*\*

Catherine Cox (SON)

Mary DeRaedt (GSEHD)

Baxter Goodly (Facilities)\*\*

Sarah-Kay Hurst (CCAS)

Joan Kester (GSEHD)

Joshua Mannix (SON Staff)

Mallory Miller (GSEHD Staff)

Scott Pagel (LAW)

Terry Murphy (Sr. Vice Provost for Academic Affairs)\*\*

Wayne Psek (GWSPH)

Mark Reeves (CCAS)

Cynthia Rohrbeck (CCAS)

Mary Beth Stein (CCAS)

James Tielsch (GWSPH)\*

*\*Senate Member*

*\*\*Non-Voting Member*



## **Committee Meeting Dates:**

Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## **Fall Topics/Actions Taken:**

**The September meeting** convened with an overview on the status of various summer projects by Baxter Goodly and Adam Aaronson. Numerous Residence Halls including Thurston, Dakota, Potomac, 1959 E, Fulbright, JBKO, South Hall, Mitchell and Shenkman Halls are in various stages of upgrade and/or refurbishment.

Many Academic and Administrative buildings, chiefly Himmelfarb, Ross, Smith, Corcoran Gallery, Gelman Library, Duques and the Law Library received or were in the process of infrastructure upgrades.

Additionally, multiple buildings are in process for HVAC and/or Utilities upgrades, including Lerner, Townhouse Row, Burns Law Library, as well as the Elliott School and Ross Hall elevator units. The anticipated completion of most projects is estimated to be in early October. It was noted that global supply chain delays have added to the parts acquisition timeframe in several sectors.

By request of the Committee, an update on the ongoing construction in the Corcoran School of the Arts + Design was given by Adam Aaronson, principally focused on envelope and HVAC work, exterior moat repair, and roof repair. Corcoran (Flagg Building) is the only GW owned building with both an exterior and interior historic designation, hence adding to the complexity of scope of work. The Committee's questions also moved more broadly on how Building Assessments are completed and prioritized; how classroom level concerns are addressed both locally and in long term planning; and how building records are kept and how and if Facilities should prioritize this in conjunction with Building Lifecycle Assessments.

Baxter Goodly presented an update to the Committee on the General Services Provider, noting that Aramark has held this contract for over forty years, and ABM was selected from nine bidders to replace on August 1, 2022.

Seth Weinshel (AVP, Business Services) gave the Committee an update on the status of campus Housing and Dining Services. Seth noted the large incoming class size, as well as the successful re-opening of Thurston Hall and the replacement of washer/dryer units across campus. They also plan to work on mail and package distribution. Questions were raised concerning how large class sizes might impact the efficacy of future renovations.

It was noted that Chartwells Higher Education would be contracted to handle the GW Dining Plan, as well as ongoing supply chain issues that could impact both consumables and equipment. Thurston and Shenkman Dining Halls were delayed, with the expectation of opening during the month of October. Seth commented that an additional Dining Hall will need to be built to serve the entire Foggy Bottom population in the near future. Per questions from the Committee, it was also noted that food cost increases pass to Chartwells, with an Inflation Cap in agreement that is passed on to GW.

Mark Reeves presented the Committee with an update from the GuVC SubCommittee, formed in AY 21-22. Notably, two pilot units were installed in the USC symptomatic testing center, with four additional sites for future pilots. Mark noted that the MAG and Public Health has been involved, and thus far there are positive indicators to the efficacy of the GuVC unit.

September Meeting Minutes and PowerPoint Presentations can be found here:  
<https://gwu.app.box.com/folder/172107118688>

**The October meeting** convened with a Resolution presented to the Committee in support of new Residence Halls. Presented by Eric Grynaviski, as a co-authored resolution in collaboration with the Education Policy & Technology (EP&T) Committee. It was noted that this would occupy the adjacent lot next to Building YY, and the need was also prefaced for additional dining spaces. After discussion and deliberation, motion was passed with unanimous consent, with proviso that any amendments from the Educational Policy & Technology Committee may require an additional approval vote by the Committee.

By request of the Committee, Baxter Goodly gave the committee an update on the status of the Virginia Science and Technology Campus in Ashburn, VA. Questions regarding space usage and long-term plans were raised, as well as COVID and safety measures and issues of dining access. It was noted that Leadership is examining ways to increase the usage of the Ashburn campus, with no firm plans at the moment.

The final item, opened by Eric Grynaviski, involved a discussion on lines of communication between Facilities and the GW Community. A general sense of concern was raised by the

Committee, as well as several specific recent instances of communication issues. Many questions and comments were raised concerning how building and maintenance issues are raised and addressed; Points of Contact for each building, division or school; how emergencies are addressed internally; and the need for agile day-to-day communication. Vice Provost Murphy noted that the MPA Building Renovation slated to begin December 2022 was working on pre-emptive communication strategies, which might be modeled for other long-term systems in the future.

October Meeting Minutes can be found here:

<https://gwu.app.box.com/folder/177216070192>

Resolution in Support of a new Residence Hall can be found here:

<https://gwu.app.box.com/file/1027588243372?s=jp8m4tg4wlskigabcbqbeux31lym6dvy>

**The November meeting** convened with updates on the Dining Halls, as well as the GW Campus Master Plan (CMP.) With the Thurston Dining Hall open, it was noted that the food was high quality, although some issues are occurring with access and wait times. The opening of the Shenkman Dining Hall (S23) should alleviate some of these concerns. Questions were raised regarding the viability of the dining halls for social activities, as well as engagement with Faculty and Staff, the latter of which may be a point of discussion in the future.

With many new members joining the Physical Facilities Committee this year, an update was given on the status of the Campus Master Plan to familiarize the Committee with its current state. An overview of the primary topics was given, which includes both Foggy Bottom and the Mount Vernon campus. While the presentation of timeline for work extends through 2029, it was noted that the CMP in its current iteration is on hold, although individual projects may be in various stages of the planning pipeline.

The Committee raised many questions, particularly regarding scope of work; focus on the Ambulatory Care Center and integration of CCAS into a single building; and current status and cost. The Committee voiced concerns regarding lack of clarity with an academic plan, loss of classroom space, overall cost and level of community consultation, and other large-scale action items. The scope and role of the Committee in regards to the CMP was also tabled; it was noted that the current CMP might be used as a case-study for any future long-term campus planning. Discussion of the CMP is slated to continue into the scheduled PFC Meeting.



The meeting concluded with Committee discussion surrounding the examination of new business, and whether Sub-Committees should be created in advance of full Committee involvement. John Traub shared his work in AY 21-22 regarding Room-Level Data compilation in regards to Maintenance tickets and response, and noted the movement by Facilities to the “Zone” model of Facilities response in the future. Mark Reeves updated the Committee on the current state of GuVC, noting particularly strong pushback from Faculty in regards to safety concerns, with many public health variables outside the scope of immediate control. Updates from Baxter Goodly were tabled for the December meeting.

November Meeting Minutes can be found here:

<https://gwu.app.box.com/folder/181497017753>

**The December meeting** continued with the discussion of the Campus Master Plan (CMP;) including a presentation by Eric Grynawski which examined previous examples within our Market Basket Schools, with varying degrees of success and efficacy at each institution.

The primary questions posited to the Committee were:

- 1. Does the level and type of Faculty input depend on whether the planning is narrow or broad? And, does level and type of faculty input depend on whether the project affects the Academic Core?**
- 2. What are advantages of a participatory plan? Under what conditions is a Trustee or Administration led plan advisable?**
- 3. How does the University define the Central Academic Core?**

The meeting concluded, after much discussion, with the agreement that it would be a useful exercise to physically map the Academic Core in Foggy Bottom Campus, as well as generate a memo to the Faculty senate on Faculty Involvement in Planning.

December Meeting Minutes can be found here:

<https://gwu.app.box.com/folder/185439428349>

Market Basket Research can be found here:

<https://gwu.app.box.com/folder/185397214603>



## Spring Topics/Actions Taken:

**The January meeting** convened with updates from Seth Weinshel regarding Dining Services, principally regarding the opening of Shenkman and the beginning tests of our capacity for mandatory dining. Seth noted that each future cohort will phase in more diners into this new system.

Facilities updates were given by Baxter Goodly, who noted that fourteen separate buildings were impacted from the December cold snap, principally related to frozen or broken piping. All issues were addressed, and no live-in students were impacted over the Winter Break. Additionally, Facilities took advantage of the curricular break to address planned projects across 34 different buildings, with construction planning on 19 different buildings in various stages of the pipeline in conjunction with Adam Aaronson and his team. Finally, the conversion to the new General Services contract was discussed, noting that this transfer process is continuing, and GW is allowing several legacy Staff members to finish their contracts prior to replacement. Vice Provost Murphy and the PFC expressed their gratitude to Baxter and his team for their hard work over the Holiday break.

The Strategic Campus Plan Discussion continued, with the acknowledgement that the investigation of the physical Academic Core would be moved to a fully in-person February meeting. The Committee discussed the relationship between the Strategic, Campus Master and Academic Plans; Committee Structure; and Adoption of the Academic Core. The different modalities were also reviewed from the December meeting presentation.

The Committee posited four critical questions in relation to the SCP Discussion:

- 1. Should we reference the importance of Strategic and Academic Plans in a memo re: participants?**
- 2. What are the Basic principles of the Committee Structure? For Broad Planning, who is essential?**
- 3. What Committee Structures should be ruled out?**
- 4. Who selects Committee members?**

The PFC focused on accessibility and representation, as well as the need for appropriate coordination.

January Meeting Minutes can be found here:

<https://gwu.app.box.com/folder/189957521834>



**The February meeting** convened in person in Monroe Hall, beginning with a reminder that the current PFC was reaching its conclusions and calling for volunteers to continue in AY 23-24. Additionally, it was noted that the Co-Chairs were contacted directly by the Co-Chairs of the Libraries Committee with building concerns, with the agreement of more information to follow in the future.

Facilities updates were given by Baxter Goodly, noting primarily the flooding in the Law School followed by quick work from the remediation crew.

The meeting continued to the discussion and examination of the Academic Core Memorandum, including definitions of what physical demarcations might exist to shape this. Methods of framing and inclusion were discussed, as well as the need to be a permanent component in any long-term procedures. It was noted that while it is not fully within the Committee's purview to define *what* the Academic Core is, any recommendations from the PFC to FSEC on this question would be well received.

The meeting then moved to recommendations for the Academic Core Memorandum, focusing on four critical components:

- 1. Campus Master Planning should follow strategic and academic planning.**
- 2. Carefully consider the kind of committee structure likely to produce effective shared governance over facilities issues.**
- 3. Consider identifying an academic core and insisting on extensive faculty involvement in changes to the academic core.**
- 4. Early and transparent communication is an effective way to enlist faculty support.**

Recommendations and edits included consideration for both University wide inclusion as well as faculty; when Faculty are invited to participate in the AC process; and stressing the needs for guidelines, particularly while working with incoming Leadership administration.

The primary action item was the revised and updated Academic Core Memorandum for presentation to the Faculty Senate in March 2023.

February Meeting minutes can be found here:

<https://gwu.app.box.com/folder/194494020958>

**The March meeting** convened virtually, and in advance of the Faculty Senate meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup>. The subject of the Libraries Committee's concerns was tabled and voted to defer to the next PFC session without objection, while still leaving room for ad-hoc discussions to continue between Committee Chairs.

The primary goal of the March meeting was discussion of current and future plans for Physical Facilities Committee – what aspects needed to be finished this term, and what should be on the future term's docket. The new facilities contractor is a primary area of interest particularly regarding responsiveness and community satisfaction, as well as particular student spaces such as Health and Wellness, the Student Center, and all Dining spaces. The Mount Vernon and Ashburn campuses were also included in this discussion, although it was noted that future strategic plans remain uncertain.

In regard to the GUVIC (Germicidal Ultraviolet) pilot technology, it was recommended that we close this Sub-Committee and line of inquiry given the strong pushback from the Faculty, while noting it could be renewed as an item in the future. HVAC and COVID were also considered in this context; it was recommended we defer to the Medical Advisory Group who is still focusing on this. Consideration was also given to designate a SME as a liaison to the MAG in the future to stay topical with any changes.

Additionally, Co-Chairs Eric Grynawski and John Traub joined the Faculty Senate meeting on Friday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, to present the PFC Academic Core Memorandum. (Additional info below.)

March Meeting Minutes can be found here:

<https://gwu.app.box.com/file/1160636498423>

Academic Core Memorandum can be found here:

<https://bpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.gwu.edu/dist/0/196/files/2023/03/PFC-Memo-on-Master-Planning.pdf>

Faculty Senate presentation slide deck can be found here:

<https://bpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.gwu.edu/dist/0/196/files/2023/03/Master-Planning-Slides.pdf>