



Faculty Senate

Friday, January 16, 2026, at 2:00pm
in MPA 309 (805 21st Street NW) and via Zoom

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the [minutes](#) of the December 12, 2025, meeting
3. [Resolution 26/6](#): Of Appreciation for Professor Katrin Schultheiss (Professor Tarek El-Ghazawi, Faculty Senate Executive Committee)
4. College of Professional Studies membership term realignment (Professor John Warren)
5. President's Report & Interim Provost's Report (Ellen Granberg, President, and John Lach, Interim Provost)
 - [President's Report Pre-Read](#)
 - [Interim Provost's Report Pre-Read](#)
 - Brief Statements and Questions/President's & Provost's Reports
6. Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report (Professor Guillermo Orti, Chair)
 - [FSEC Report Pre-Read](#)
 - Brief Statements and Questions/Executive Committee Report
7. REPORT: Research (Bob Miller, Interim Vice President for Research)
 - [Research Report Pre-Read](#)
8. Introduction of New Resolutions to be Referred to Committee
9. General Business
 - a) Nominations for standing committee membership
 - b) Standing committee reports received
 - [Libraries interim report](#)
 - [University & Urban Affairs interim report](#)
10. Brief Statements and Questions/General
11. Adjournment



Faculty Senate

A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR PROFESSOR KATRIN SCHULTHEISS (26/6)

WHEREAS, Professor Katrin Schultheiss served on the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate from May 2024, through October 2025 (most recently as Chair);

WHEREAS, as Chair of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Professor Schultheiss encouraged greater faculty participation in Senate committees, emphasizing the importance of faculty engagement in university governance;

WHEREAS, Professor Schultheiss has tirelessly invested countless hours in improving the lives of GW's students, staff, and faculty, in addition to the quality and reputation of the University; and

WHEREAS, Professor Schultheiss has earned the highest level of respect, gratitude, and admiration of her colleagues on the Faculty Senate as well as the esteem and appreciation of the University community;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
BY THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
THAT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF APPRECIATION BE ISSUED:**

Professor Katrin Schultheiss has provided remarkable service as a member of the Faculty Senate since 2021, as a member of the Senate Executive Committee since 2024, and served as the Chair of the Executive Committee from May to October 2025.

As Chair of the Executive Committee, Professor Schultheiss has provided outstanding leadership to the University, particularly in the area of communication and shared governance.

As a consequence of her leadership, THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HEREBY EXPRESSES ITS DEEPEST ADMIRATION, APPRECIATION, AND GRATITUDE TO PROFESSOR KATRIN SCHULTHEISS FOR HER OUTSTANDING SERVICE.

Professor Jeffrey Akman
Professor Heather Bamford
Professor Jennifer Brinkerhoff
Professor Tarek El-Ghazawi
Professor Ilana Feldman
Professor Patricia Hernandez
Professor Matthew Kay
Professor Meina Liu

Professor David Mendelowitz
Professor Harris Mylonas
Professor Guillermo Orti
Professor Kausik Sarkar
Professor John Warren
Professor Arthur Wilson
Professor Phil Wirtz

January 7, 2026

Faculty Senate Meeting
January 16, 2026
President Granberg's Report/Pre-Read

With the spring semester starting next week, I hope you had a happy new year and found time over the holiday break to rest, reflect, and be with people who matter to you. As the year begins, I want to thank you for your service on Faculty Senate and for all you do to ensure that this group represents the voice of the faculty on issues of importance to the university.

Considering the last Faculty Senate meeting took place in mid-December, not long before Winter Break, my President's Report Pre-Read will be relatively brief.

Department of Justice Meeting

On Tuesday, January 6, GW General Counsel Charles Barber, Vice President Colette Coleman, GWPD Chief Victor Brito, and counsel from Gibson and Dunn joined me at a meeting with the Department of Justice where we were given the opportunity to present facts demonstrating our commitment to preventing antisemitism at our university. I want to thank members of the faculty, including Faculty Senate representatives, who are serving on the Federal Matters working group and have contributed their expertise as we have prepared for this meeting, which was a constructive exchange of information. Assistant Attorney General Harmeet Dhillon said we had provided facts that she did not have prior to our discussion. We are reviewing the outcomes of this meeting, determining next steps, and will provide fuller information as we are able.

UHS Negotiation Update

Our negotiations with Universal Health Services continue. At this writing, several issues remain subject to intense negotiation, including those related to the employment agreement and education.

GW Culinary Medicine Featured on PBS News Hour

On Sunday, January 4, PBS News Hour featured the [GW Culinary Medicine Program](#). Through the program, third- and fourth-year medical students at GW are taking the Culinary Medicine elective, exploring the intersection of the art of cooking and the science of medicine. Considering that heart disease and diabetes—diet related illnesses—are among the leading causes of death in the U.S., there is value in empowering doctors to talk with their patients about food. You can watch the segment [here](#). I want to congratulate Dr. Timothy Harlan, professor of medicine in SMHS and the executive director of the Culinary Medicine Program, on this feature and the visibility it brings to the program and the university as a whole.

Welcome to GW Trustee Kevin Brown

On January 1, GW Engineering alumnus [Kevin Brown](#) (M.E. '94) became the newest elected member of the GW Board of Trustees. Trustee Brown, who also served on the GW Engineering National Advisory Council, is the executive vice president for global operations and chief supply chain officer at Dell Technologies and has more than 30 years of leadership experience in operations, technology and procurement, with a focus on strategic and transformative initiatives, innovations and partnerships to increase efficiencies, savings and effectiveness.

I want to thank you again for all you do for the university. I hope the semester starts well for all of you, with classes launching and research continuing to advance. I'm looking forward to our meeting next week as well as our work together in the year ahead.



Faculty Senate
January 16, 2026
Interim Provost Lach's Report/Pre-Read

Allegations of Research Misconduct Policy

The updated [Allegations of Research Misconduct Policy](#) has been finalized and posted to GW's public policy repository. The final version, which outlines GW's process for addressing allegations of research misconduct in accordance with federal regulations, sponsor requirements, and ethical standards, incorporates input from faculty senators and members of the research community. Thank you to all who engaged in the review process and provided valuable feedback.

New Venture Competition

Hopefully, you saw an infomail and the GW Today story before winter break announcing that applications are open for the first round of the 2026 New Venture Competition. It is GW's nationally-recognized business model competition that provides students, faculty, staff and alumni a real-world experiential learning opportunity in entrepreneurship and awards cash and in-kind prizes to multiple winners. This year, we are launching a new Food Innovation track in partnership with the Global Food Institute.

Information on how to apply is available on the [New Venture Competition website](#). Applications for the first round are due Sunday, February 1 at 11:59pm ET.



Faculty Senate

Report of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC)

Guillermo Orti, Chair

January 16, 2026, Senate Meeting

FSEC Activities

FSEC held its regular meeting on December 19 with nine voting members and one non-voting member present. The group approved the January Senate agenda by unanimous consent.

FSEC liaisons to the Senate standing committees and the Joint Committee of Faculty & Students (JCFS) provided updates on current and planned committee work. Updates included:

- JCFS engaged in a robust discussion of the Follett all-access proposal. Given EPT's previous work on this topic, it is strongly encouraged that JCFS engage with Senate standing committees if future agenda items will overlap. Student representatives are included in EPT and need to be aware and involved with issues of interest in either or both committees in order to strengthen collaboration between faculty and students.
- Appointments, Salary, and Promotion Policies (ASPP) discussed the challenges facing international faculty and tenure line numbers, as well as the need for transparency and a philosophy around equity decisions at the university.
- Educational Policy & Technology (EPT) renewed its discussion of the Follett proposal and discussed AI at GW as well as textbook affordability and open access to educational materials.
- Research discussed the interplay of research and the new budget model, in particular how interdisciplinary efforts would be handled, and the dissemination of a survey to faculty on grants management.
- Libraries is monitoring the final adoption of the draft open access policy, which has been under development for eleven years.
- PEAFF is setting up subcommittees to try and move issues through to action more quickly. Recent discussions have included the policy review process and the need to involve more faculty and to ensure that feedback requests are timed to consider final exam schedules. The group also discussed concerns around the length of time the Office of Access & Opportunity (OAO) takes to complete investigations.

The Senate staff met with Chief of Staff Mory to discuss adjustments to the Faculty Assembly logistics to encourage better attendance. In Fall 2026, the Assembly will be held as a lunch event, moving it from its traditional late-afternoon time slot.

The President confirmed that faculty members have an avenue for submitting questions about federal matters via their FSEC representatives; those questions will then be shared with the President's office to be addressed in the weekly federal update email. In addition, each weekly federal update email includes a link to submit questions and concerns directly to the administration.

FSEC discussed possible guidelines around confidentiality, in particular how such instances would be defined and managed. The President affirmed that she would like FSEC to be a body with which the administration can build a working relationship, noting that consistency and building trust over time are especially important. Such guidelines will be shared with PEAFF and the Senate for discussion and, eventually, a vote.

Personnel Actions

There are no active grievances at the university.

Calendar

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee is January 30, 2026. Draft resolutions and any other possible Senate agenda items should be forwarded to [Liz Carlson](#) in the Senate office as soon as possible, ideally by January 23. The next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting is February 13, 2026, at 2pm.

2025-2026 Senate Standing Committee Leadership

Committee	Chair(s)	FSEC Liaison
Appointments, Salary, & Promotion Policies (ASPP)	Patricia Hernandez	Jennifer Brinkerhoff
Athletics & Recreation	Harris Mylonas (Peng Wei, Co-Chair)	Scott Kieff
Educational Policy & Technology (EPT)	Jamie Cohen-Cole (Thomas Choate, Co-Chair)	John Warren
Fiscal Planning & Budgeting (FPB)	Susan Kulp (Joe Cordes, Co-chair)	David Mendelowitz
Honors & Academic Convocations	Katrin Schultheiss	Scott Kieff
Libraries	Rhonda Schwindt (Holly Dugan, Co-Chair)	Rhonda Schwindt
Physical Facilities & Campus Safety (PFCS)	Anne Markus (John Traub, Co-Chair)	Jonathan Eakle
Professional Ethics & Academic Freedom (PEAF)	Shawneequa Callier (Dwayne Wright, Co-Chair)	Arthur Wilson
Research	Matt Kay (Karen McDonnell, Co-Chair)	Tarek El-Ghazawi
University & Urban Affairs (UUA)	David Rain (Maranda Ward, Co-Chair)	Amita Vyas