Incoming Reflections

First, I’d like to express my appreciation for the appointment to the FSEC and to chair its deliberations for the coming year. It is an honor to serve in this capacity.

In contrast to the very heavy and difficult load that Professor Wilson carried over the last 2 years under stressful circumstances, I’d like to express my optimism for progress in a number of areas for his coming year. These include:

- Further work to operationalize the principles of shared governance developed by the task force and endorsed by this body. In speaking with Chair Speights this morning, she was fully on board with this agenda. In response to the recommendations contained in the task force report and the senate resolution, she has already mentioned 3 areas where work should start as soon as possible: regular meetings of the BOT with FSEC both in-person when they are on campus and virtually at least every other month; the development of orientation materials for newly appointed members of the BOT, faculty, and mid-level and senior administrators that cover the responsibilities and cultures of these three groups of stakeholders; development of a set of characteristics desired in a new president of GW through an open process that will inform the position description and the work of the search committee. I am impressed with her openness and approach to collaboration with the faculty on the challenge of continuing to improve shared governance at GW.

- The presidential search. This is a critical appointment for the leadership of this institution as we enter our 3rd century. I think we should all be encouraged by the representation of the faculty on the search committee and the FCC. Thanks go to Kim Roddis for leading the FCC and I look forward to this search being as open as possible. Once the search website is open I encourage all members of the senate and other faculty to contribute their perspectives on what skills and characteristics our new president should possess. All nominations for consideration will also be accepted.

I’d also like to thank President Wrighton for his efforts to mend fences between the faculty and the administration, his leadership has been a breath of fresh air and he has accomplished a dramatic change in the tenor of our interactions with the administration.

This optimism does not underestimate the continuing work we need to do here at GW to realize the incredible potential of this institution. As a senate, we need to continue to have high expectations for performance of our education and research programs. We need to insist that the administrative functions of the university serve the agendas of the faculty and students and not be barriers to innovation. We need to work with the administration in incorporating a stronger vision for our
medical enterprise. And we need to address the long-standing need for rejuvenation of our campus facilities. Once a new president is in place, I’m sure a strategic planning process will be high on the president’s agenda to prepare us for the next 100 years and I look forward to the senate and its committees working with the new administration on these important agendas.

**Personnel Actions**

There is one active non-concurrence.

**Calendar**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee is August 26, 2022. Draft resolutions and any other possible Senate agenda items should be forwarded to Liz Carlson in the Senate office with as much advance notice as possible to assist with the timely compilation of the FSEC meeting agenda, ideally by August 19, 2022. The next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting is September 9, 2022.