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## Orientation programming eases transition into GW, students say

**LIZZIE MINTZ**  
CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

Dean of the Student Experience Cissy Petty started her Wednesday at 7 a.m. to greet students at their residence halls – and that was just the start to five days of interacting with incoming students and parents during orientation.

Freshmen and their families participated in the first-ever New Student Orientation last week, replacing the longstanding Colonial Inauguration that students attended over the summer. Students and families who participated in the programming said the fall model helped them become familiarized with University resources and acclimated to campus life through scheduled community and ser-

vice events. “We are just going to keep working on the things that make the lives of students easier and richer,” Petty said. “I want people to love their experience.”

Petty said she passed her cellphone number out to families and fielded calls throughout the week from parents asking questions or providing feedback about orientation. She said she will regularly meet with students, randomly attend student events unannounced and plan weeklong stays in residence halls – an initiative she piloted last year.

University President Thomas LeBlanc said including families in orientation forges connections between families and helps parents adjust to leaving their children at GW. He said moving the timing of orientation to right be-

fore classes begin will allow students to bond together earlier.

“With this orientation starting all together at the beginning of the semester, it starts creating a class bond that is very hard to build if you come in pieces throughout the summer, which is how we used to do orientation,” LeBlanc said.

Parents could participate in programming like a panel for first-generation families, a resource fair and a session during which professors discussed how to use faculty resources to “maximize” a student’s educational experience, according to the New Student Orientation webpage.

Shehnaz Khan, a double alumna and the parent of an incoming student, said parents attended a panel during which current students

answered questions about different topics, like what they wished they knew before coming to college.

“They really enjoyed asking the students who are juniors or seniors about what their experiences have been like, what would you have wanted to know when you first got here that you know now that you didn’t know then,” she said.

Freshman Madison Galerston said involving parents in orientation allowed her family to connect with her roommates and their families before starting classes. She said the new orientation programming helps parents learn more about different resources that will help their children during their time at college.

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## Officials rename 4-RIDE, offer students Capital Bikeshare discounts



ALEXANDER WELLING | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

**LIA DEGROOT**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Students will have access to a slew of new transportation options this academic year, including discounted car and bike-share memberships and updated campus shuttle systems.

Transportation officials worked at the end of the spring semester and this summer to rebrand the 4-RIDE service, upgrade an app that tracks campus transportation options and offer an annual discounted Capital Bikeshare membership for students. Officials said the changes reflect conversations held between student leaders, who highlighted a need for safer and more accessible transportation options in and around campus.

“We’re trying to provide as many opportunities for students to get around D.C. and then also to have opportunities for those stu-

dents who are uncomfortable walking alone at night and want a safe ride around our campus,” Karen Zinn, the executive director of transportation, said.

### Upgraded ‘Safe Ride’ service

Alicia Knight, the senior associate vice president for operations, said the University replaced the previous 4-RIDE vans with a new fleet of cars now branded “Safe Ride.” Knight said the buff, blue and white painted onto the new vehicles mirrors the recently upgraded Vern Express exterior and is designed to help the cars stand out to students looking for their ride.

She said officials decided to revamp the program after receiving feedback from students and drivers about long wait times. The Hatchet reported in November that students often complained about long wait times and unfriendly

drivers when using the service.

Knight said GW originally named 4-RIDE for the number someone would dial to call one of the service’s cars. She said students can now request a Safe Ride using an app that allows students to enter their location in a style similar to ride-sharing apps like Uber or Lyft.

John Ralls, the communications and outreach director for the Division of Operations, said officials will gather feedback about the Safe Ride program from students. The University will ask students to evaluate the service, similar to the “secret shoppers” recruited to report feedback on the Vex, he said.

Zinn, the executive director of operations, said the transportation team garnered feedback this summer through conversations with the Residence Hall Association and Student Association leader-

ship, student forums and focus groups. She said students can continue to submit feedback about the new system through the tracking app.

### GW Rider App

The GW Rider mobile application, which allows students to view the frequency and location of the Vex and Virginia Science and Technology Campus shuttles and track Safe Ride trips, is now available to students, officials announced Friday.

Knight, the senior associate vice president for operations, said a previous version of the application provided a schedule for the Vex, VSTC shuttle and Safe Ride run times, but the new app tracks each vehicle’s location.

“This will be seamless to students,” Knight said.

## Floating tuition policy will give officials more flexibility with spending: experts

**LIZZIE MINTZ & ZACH SCHONFELD**  
CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITORS

The decision to axe a longstanding fixed tuition policy will bring GW’s cost of attendance in line with peer institutions, higher education experts said.

Administrators announced last week that, beginning with the Class of 2024, incoming undergraduates will no longer pay a fixed tuition rate for up to 10 consecutive semesters, changing a policy in effect since 2004. Experts said the move will allow officials to adjust tuition rates year-to-year to meet annual revenue needs.

University spokeswoman Maralee Csellar said the decision was part of an “overall look at the undergraduate student experience and how it can be improved,” one of University President Thomas LeBlanc’s five top initiatives since his arrival.

The change will net the University an estimated \$12 million per year, but there will be no immediate impact for “several years,” she said.

Csellar added that LeBlanc worked with “senior leadership” this summer to develop the plan, which was ultimately approved by the Board of Trustees this summer.

She said officials will continue to review need-based financial aid packages annually and adjust aid based on the cost of attendance. The board has approved multiple tuition increases for incoming students in each of the past several years.

Csellar added that merit aid scholarships – which in the past have not increased for students to meet jumps in the cost of attendance – will not be adjusted under the floating tuition rate policy.

“The University will take into account the tuition level when building its annual

aid budget,” Csellar said. “How this translates to an individual student will depend upon the overall need of our families, the level of need for a particular student and annual budgeting decisions of the University.”

Csellar declined to say whether officials expect to see a change in the number of undergraduate applications or the admitted student yield rate as a result of the change.

“We believe that the value of a GW education is clear and that the absence of the fixed tuition program will not hinder our capability to enroll a diverse and talented group of students,” she said.

Higher education experts said that while changing the fixed tuition policy eliminates a marketing tool to attract prospective students, the move – which will align GW with all 12 of its peer institutions – will likely not significantly affect admissions or yield rates.

Richard Vedder, a distinguished professor emeritus of economics at Ohio University, said officials likely initially implemented the fixed tuition policy to provide financial certainty to students and parents, abate some of the worry associated with GW’s high sticker price and entice more students to apply.

He added that the fixed tuition policy likely allowed the University to compete with schools with larger endowments and financial aid budgets. GW’s endowment hit nearly \$1.8 billion by the end of fiscal year 2018, slightly below the average size of GW’s peer schools’ endowments.

Vedder said officials probably realized the initial rationale for instituting a fixed tuition policy no longer helps them compete with other schools.

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# News

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## CRIME LOG

### SIMPLE ASSAULT

Public Property on Campus (22nd and I streets)  
8/13/2019 – 11:45 p.m.  
Closed Case  
GW Police Department officers responded to a report that an unknown male subject struck an individual in the face on the corner of 22nd and I streets. GWPD and Metropolitan Police Department officers canvassed the surrounding area but could not locate the subject.  
**Referred to MPD**

### UNLAWFUL ENTRY

Mitchell Hall (7-Eleven Store)  
8/18/2019 – 8:30 a.m.  
Closed Case  
A GWPD officer observed a male individual who was previously barred from campus while on patrol at 7-Eleven. The officer issued the individual an updated bar notice and escorted him out of the store.  
**Subject barred**

### BLACKMAIL

Columbia Plaza Apartments  
8/18/2019 – 7:30 p.m.  
Open Case  
A male student reported that an unknown female subject whom he met over a dating app blackmailed him.  
**Case open**

### THEFT II/FROM BUILDING

Smith Center  
8/21/2019 – Unknown  
Closed Case  
GW Police Department officers who responded to a fire alarm in Amsterdam Hall found Smith Center property in the student's room where the fire was reported.  
**Referred to the Office of Enrollment and the Student Experience**

-Compiled by Lia DeGroot

## New orientation forges family connections

From Page 1

"Having our parents doing the orientation programs together, moving us all in and being together, I think helps because now all of our parents know each other," Galerston said. "If something is happening, they have someone to talk to about it."  
Freshman Ashley Bumbaugh said she enjoyed

touring the monuments with her orientation leader Thursday night because the tour allowed students who are not familiar with D.C. to explore the city. Orientation leaders also planned tours around campus so students could locate their classes before the start of the semester.  
Bumbaugh said she was a "little overwhelmed" before registering for classes online in the summer,

which all students were required to complete before coming to campus. She said participating in programming for the Elliott School of International Affairs and meeting with her adviser during orientation helped her understand more about her schedule and how to register for classes in the future.  
"I was excited to get into Blackboard and then see everything that I need-

ed," she said. "But, once I did that, I had to spend a good week just getting into it and slowly figuring out what I needed."  
Incoming students participated in five days of programming during orientation, but new transfer students and their families only attended events Thursday and Friday. Transfer students took part in activities like a "Kick-Off" event, a resource fair

## Students score discounted bikeshare membership

From Page 1

Zinn, the executive director for operations, said the transportation team also solicited feedback from 4-RIDE drivers when designing the new ride-hailing system.  
"They're really the first line of communication with the students who are using the service, so a lot of their feedback was instrumental," Zinn said.

### Annual memberships

The University partnered with the District Department of Transportation to offer a discounted Capital Bikeshare membership for students, DDOT announced Wednesday. Students can also sign up for a free Car2Go membership and receive a \$10 credit after taking their first ride.  
Students can sign up for the \$25 membership online using a discount code unique to GW, according to a release last week from DDOT. An annual Capital Bikeshare

membership typically costs \$85, according to the Capital Bikeshare website.  
James Harnett, a senior and an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, said he proposed the idea for a discounted student pass to DDOT officials at a meeting with other commissioners in March.  
"It certainly should be something that's available for students and people who are limited by resources and don't have access to equitable transportation options to get

around the District or get to work, to internships," he said.  
Harnett said DDOT plans to add a new Capital Bikeshare station on 21st and G streets in November, which will provide more bikes for students to drive to and on campus. There are currently three Capital Bikeshare stations located on campus.  
"I view this as the first step in a long conversation and process we're going to have to engage with to really open up the transportation options for students," Harnett said.

## New policy tied to reduction in enrollment: experts

From Page 1

"My guess is that it is no longer viewed as cool," Vedder said. "That is to say, the peer schools that GW competes with have mostly either not adopted this or they have abandoned it, and GW's feeling that it is not giving them any more advantage."  
Vedder added that the University likely no longer needs the policy to attract applicants and students given recent admissions and enrollment trends. LeBlanc announced plans last month to cut undergraduate student enrollment by 20 percent over the next five years amid a decrease in the admissions rate and increase

in the yield rate last year.  
"GW has probably reached the conclusion that, 'Hey, we are doing pretty good on applications right now,'" he said. "We're going to cut down on the size of our freshman class a little bit deliberately to avoid housing congestion and excessively sized classes or whatever, so we do not need the marketing advantages associated with this fixed fee."  
Mark Kantrowitz – the publisher and vice president of research for Saving for College, an online college finance resource – said officials may "slightly lower" the cost of tuition for the Class of 2024 because officials can increase the price in the future as needed.

Kantrowitz said the change will likely not affect the student body's demographics because the University's cost of attendance remains expensive.  
"Some people argue that the slight decrease reduces sticker shock and so might increase enrollment by low-income students," he said in an email. "But, GW's tuition is already high enough that the impact on sticker shock is negligible."  
Dean Smith, a former administrator at four universities and a professor emeritus at the University of Hawaii, said that while administrators will likely increase financial aid to "stay competitive" with other schools, the increases in cost for those who do not receive

financial aid will translate into increased earnings for the University.  
"The whole point of raising tuition is to make more money because your cost has gone up, but not all of your students are on financial aid, so you're still going to make money out of the deal," Smith said in an email.  
He added that the increased revenues from any tuition increase will allow the University to pay for additional resources.  
"If the University improves its services and educational experience by raising tuition, it increases the value of its degrees," Smith said. "All alumni gain from that."  
-Lia DeGroot contributed reporting.



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# Majority of department websites feature outdated information

JARED GANS  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Students looking for their academic department's recent news and events listings may find themselves out of luck.

The Hatchet reviewed the websites of more than 100 academic departments and programs across GW's 10 schools and found that more than 65 percent of web pages lack information about any department news or events from the last year, feature news articles at least five years old or do not offer any news at all. Experts said the prevalence of outdated information on GW websites is "concerning" because it could mislead current and future students about GW's academics.

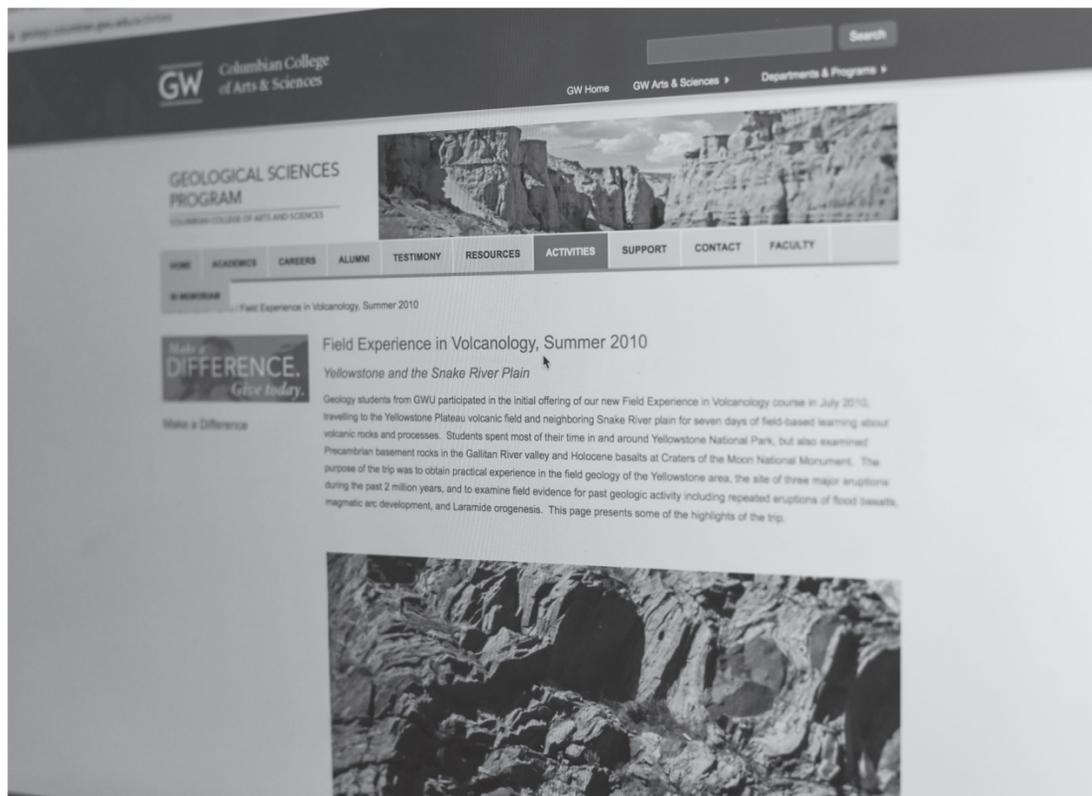
"If it extends across multiple schools and colleges at your university, then that suggests it's a campus-wide problem, which pushes it up to the realm of the provost," said Noel Radomski, the managing director of the Wisconsin Center for the Advancement of Postsecondary Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

## Few recent updates

Fifty academic department and program websites out of 102 – almost half – do not have any news or events from 2019 posted online.

In the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the ophthalmology department website's "Presentations & Articles" tab includes an April 2014 agenda from a research meeting. The pathology department website's "Events Archive" tab does not include events past July 2014, and the site's news archive includes a single announcement from June 2016.

On the art therapy program's website, the news tab includes the program's newsletter from the past academic year but contains a gap in records from 2015 to 2018. In sections for posting articles and videos related to art therapy and



A tab on the website for the Geological Sciences Program highlighting student activities features just one entry, a trip to Yellowstone National Park nine years ago.

the program, the most recent entries are from 2015.

Ingrid Valdes, the administrative manager for the art therapy program, said she updates the art therapy program's website about once per month when there are changes to the program or new workshops being offered.

"The more information a web page has for incoming students, the better decisions they can make on the different programs, the different universities," Valdes said.

Valdes said that while the information on a university's main website contributes more to most students' college decisions than department pages, information specifically about a department or special program like art therapy can only be found on the department website.

"For prospective decisions for a program like ours that has prerequisites and requires a lot of things

for admission, the more updated the page is, the more information they can get and make a better decision on where to apply," she said.

On the website for the Geological Sciences Program, one of the tabs leads to an obituary for a professor who died almost 10 years ago. Another tab highlights program "activities," but the most recent entry listed was a visit to Yellowstone National Park in summer 2010.

The Department of Romance, German and Slavic Languages and Literatures includes the spring 2019 department newsletter online, but the news tabs on the Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish programs' websites tell viewers to "stay tuned" for news.

Cary Nelson, a professor emeritus of English and Jewish culture and society at the University of Illinois, said it is common

for department websites to be a few months out-of-date because continuously updating websites is time-consuming and sometimes impractical.

He said updating a website about once per year is a "reasonable goal" but added that as the software behind department websites becomes easier to operate, staff members should update websites more frequently.

"As websites tend to be more user-friendly in the past few years, faculty could update them on their own," Nelson said.

## Old information remaining

Many department websites across all schools contain information compiled years ago that is either no longer accurate or no longer relevant to the department in 2019.

The Department of Anthropology's website features several profiles of re-

search and student activity from at least five years ago. The "Graduate Programs" tab only lists a study conducted in 2011, the "Internships & Independent Research" tab highlights a study conducted in 2009 and the "Museum Training Concentration" tab features a news story from 2010 about the expansion of a partnership between GW and the Smithsonian Institute.

The Africana Studies Program's website lists Lisa Page, an assistant professor of English and the director of creative writing, as the program's interim director, but she said in an email that she no longer holds that position. The statistics department website includes a tab dedicated to testimonials from former students in the master's program, but only statements from students from 2007 to 2009 are included.

Radomski, the Univer-

sity of Wisconsin faculty member, said outdated department websites likely spread more misinformation among prospective students than among current students because applicants rely heavily on the internet to learn about schools.

"That makes it even more important for those departments, all departments to update their information and keep it updated as your university moves forward," Radomski said.

## Lack of conformity

Twenty-six department and program websites out of 102 – roughly one-quarter – do not maintain a section to highlight department news or events, which experts said hindered the ability of faculty to spread the word about their accomplishments.

In the medical school, the departments of radiology and surgery and 10 academic programs note their current faculty members online but do not include a tab for faculty research, faculty news or announcements. Twenty-nine other medical school department and program websites include a tab for at least one of these three topics.

In the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, the Judaic studies and peace studies programs' websites do not include a tab for program-related news or events, but the Judaic studies program allows students to sign up for a mailing list to receive announcements.

Nelson, the University of Illinois professor, said the lack of a clear location for information to be posted forces those looking to post about the department online to "climb to the top of the Himalayas" before finding the right place.

"That's something the University should be looking at," he said. "Because it sounds like the department is just not being helpful to its students."

# Meet the five candidates running to represent Ward 2 on the D.C. Council

ILENA PENG  
CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

Five candidates are vying for the Ward 2 D.C. Council seat in next year's primary election amid several ongoing investigations into embattled Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans.

The candidates – three advisory neighborhood commissioners, a former Marine and a former federal employee – are running to unseat Evans and reintroduce trust in government among community members, they said. Evans, who declined to comment, has held his Council seat for nearly three decades and has not yet filed paperwork to run for re-election.

FBI agents raided Evans' home in June as part of a federal investigation into legislation Evans introduced after receiving stock from a company that would have benefitted had the Council adopted the proposed law. Six days later, Evans resigned from his post as the former chairman of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's Board of Directors after the transit agency released the findings of its own ethics investigation, which revealed ethical misconduct.

The Council launched a separate probe into Evans in July and voted to remove him from his position as chair of the Committee on Finance and Revenue. The District's ethics board fined Evans \$20,000 earlier this month for using government resources and his influence as a public official to solicit private employment.

Evans has until March to file for re-election, according to D.C. Board of Election rules. The Democratic primary for the election will be held in



Several candidates are looking to take embattled Councilmember Jack Evans' seat on the D.C. Council in next year's primary election.

June.

The candidates seeking to replace Evans said they are running to restore trust and accountability in local government, to fund public education and to expand public transportation initiatives. In case you missed the candidates' announcements, here is a rundown of the five challengers' platforms.

## Patrick Kennedy

Kennedy, an alumnus and a Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, announced his campaign in April. He said he will increase the number of transportation options for Ward 2 residents and prioritize neighborhood schools.

He said his "style" as an ANC commissioner has been to listen to residents and include community members' voices in making decisions about legislation. Nearly half of the ANC commissioners

in Ward 2 have endorsed Kennedy for the post.

Kennedy has supported ANC resolutions to create a two-way protected bike lane running through GW's campus and construct a helipad atop the GW Hospital.

Kennedy said the next councilmember to represent Ward 2 should return to a "back-to-basics grassroots level of community engagement" to eliminate mistrust between residents and public officials. "At the end of the day, they should at least feel like their concerns were listened to, addressed if at all possible – and if they weren't addressed, they should understand why," Kennedy said.

## John Fanning

Fanning, the chair of the Logan Circle ANC, said he will prioritize reducing the number of homeless encampments in Foggy Bottom and around the District by creating a focus group

to connect the homeless population to existing city services. He said he will focus on increasing outreach to and finding permanent housing for homeless individuals.

Fanning said he would also focus on providing the same tax abatements to small businesses that larger companies receive to keep local businesses in the area.

He added that serving as a liaison to four mayors and as an ANC commissioner for six terms provides him with an institutional knowledge that distinguishes him from the other candidates.

"The relationships that I have built with the folks working in the government will make me a more effective leader, and I think residents probably would be better served if somebody went to the Council that had experience," he said.

## Jordan Grossman

Grossman, a former

Barack Obama staffer, said he is focusing his campaign on reducing housing, college and childcare costs across the District.

"I'm really focused on making sure that our residents can live and thrive here in the neighborhoods that they love, instead of feeling that they're sort of stretching to make ends meet," Grossman said.

Grossman said he opposes current policies that allow councilmembers to hold jobs in addition to their positions on the Council and permit for-profit lobbying by current and former councilmembers to reduce potential conflicts of interest.

"I've spent my whole career in public service and I know that working in government is a privilege," he said. "It's not a business opportunity." Grossman raised more money than the other five challengers even after he said he returned some donations to comply with D.C.'s Fair Elections Act, a law that matches candidates' funding at a 5-to-1 ratio if they agree to cap individual donations at \$50.

## Daniel Hernandez

Hernandez, a Microsoft employee and a former Marine, said he joined the race in June after feeling "frustration" with self-serving politicians like Evans. Hernandez said he considers himself the only challenger not already "deeply enmeshed in politics."

"I just felt called to service," he said. "I was unhappy with the representation that I saw, the way things worked as usual, so I wanted to be that difference."

Hernandez said he will use his platform to prioritize dedicated bike lanes and create

more affordable housing. Mayor Muriel Bowser announced her intention in May to build 36,000 housing units – 12,000 of which will be designated affordable units – by 2025.

"We need to build much more housing to keep up with the job growth," he said. "Job growth has just far outpaced housing production for many years."

Hernandez, who has two kids in the D.C. public school system, said he hopes to increase funding for at-risk populations in grade school – including homeless students and students in foster care – to provide resources like free meals, tutoring and mental health support.

## Kishan Putta

Putta, an ANC commissioner for the Georgetown, Burleith and Hill-andale neighborhoods, said safer streets with better bike lanes and improved health care access for D.C. residents are among his main areas of focus.

He said he also hopes to increase the number of affordable housing units to make living in D.C. more financially viable for people who want to reside downtown long-term. A study published this summer found that D.C. was among the world's priciest cities to move to.

Putta serves on the D.C. Commission on Asian American and Pacific Islander Affairs and said he will stand up for immigrants' voices and reflect the needs of minority groups in legislation.

"It is particularly important that our D.C. Council not only say the right things but also reflect the voices and perspectives of all the people of D.C.," Putta said.

# Corcoran officials aim to build community amid declining enrollment

JARED GANS & ILENA PENG

CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITORS

Five years after merging with GW – and with a new leader at its helm – the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design is trying to cultivate a common identity, faculty said.

Before the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences absorbed the school in 2014, Corcoran faced financial uncertainty as an independent institution. Officials said the school – which is now headed by interim director Kym Rice, following former director Sanjit Sethi's departure in July – is aiming to attract more students to its programs, but some faculty expressed doubts about the school's ability to reverse its five-year trend of declining enrollment.

"I am really excited to have this one-year opportunity to be at the helm of the Corcoran and keep it going in a forward direction, because that's really what I plan to do," Rice said.

Rice said increased awareness about the Corcoran and its mission among students, faculty and staff at GW now relative to five years ago is one of the school's biggest accomplishments since its merger with CCAS.

"More people externally, maybe internally to GW too, are aware of the Corcoran and understand what we're trying to do – that we're



ALEXANDER WELLING | ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR  
Corcoran interim director Kym Rice said she hopes to foster a sense of community in the school following enrollment and retention woes.

building a school that is related to the humanities focus of GW and CCAS but is also driven by arts programs," she said.

Rice said one way she wants to foster a sense of community at the school is to implement student feedback in her decision-making process. This semester, Rice said she plans to form a student advisory council for the school, similar to the one that launched in the School of Media and Public Affairs last November.

"It is really important to be able to do something that gives students a little more

authority and power," Rice said.

But over the past five years, the Corcoran has continued to face hardships, including financial woes amid ongoing renovations at the Flagg Building on 17th Street. Last year, more than 15 students said they transferred or were considering transferring out of Corcoran because of issues like the high cost of attendance and feelings of isolation from the rest of GW.

Rice said she hopes to host and advertise exhibits and guest speakers to attract non-Corcoran students to visit the Flagg Building. She

cited a 2017 event featuring animators and storyboard artists for the film "Coco," which she said attracted an "incredible crowd of students from all over GW," as a model of what Corcoran can offer to the rest of the University.

"We have incredible stuff going on," Rice said. "We just need students to be more aware of it in general."

She added that officials have continued to make progress on the search for a new permanent director, including penning a draft of a job description for the position this summer and obtaining permission from CCAS to

begin the search. Rice, who is not pursuing the permanent position, said faculty will meet in the coming weeks to elect a search committee.

Faculty said consolidating the University's arts programs "under one roof" and consistently showcasing students' work are highlights from the past five years for the school. But they added that officials should expand Corcoran's offerings to boost enrollment at the school.

Rebecca Landwehr, an adjunct professor of interior architecture, said offering alternative programs to traditional two- and four-year programs outside of regular business hours could boost interest in the school. She said Corcoran's post-professional programs, like Digital Photography Basic and Figure Drawing, may entice people with full-time jobs to join the school.

But she added that the rising cost of attendance for students cannot continue to increase if officials want to improve Corcoran enrollment because prospective students may eschew the Corcoran and choose a more affordable art school.

"With GW being one of the most expensive undergraduate institutions in the country, there has to come a breaking point," she said.

Kate Hardy, an adjunct professorial lecturer of ceramics, said she is not optimistic about a future jump in enrollment at the school

because the Corcoran now requires students to complete G-PAC requirements, which detract from the focus on art that prospective art school students seek.

"If someone wanted to go to an art school, why would they go to GW?" she said. "They would go to an art school, and it's not an art school anymore."

Hardy added that the Corcoran is still "flailing and not a success," and officials are not paying the school enough attention for it to be successful.

"It's not a bustling creative space anymore," she said. "It's just kind of empty hallways. It's just – it feels rundown and forgotten there."

Bibiana Obler, an associate professor of art history, said creating a sense of community is difficult because the Corcoran student body is split between the Flagg Building and other buildings on the Foggy Bottom Campus like the Smith Hall of Art, which "means that you don't always run into everybody at Starbucks."

But she added that students, staff, GW faculty and Corcoran legacy faculty have gradually begun to build a cohesive community at Corcoran.

"Of course, the Corcoran has had to re-envision itself," Obler said. "And so finally, it felt like that re-envisioning had made a lot of progress, and we're coming together as a new community."

## CCAS advising overhaul to increase consistency in advising services: experts

ALEC RICH

STAFF WRITER

The change to a personal adviser system in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences may lead to stronger student-adviser relationships, students and experts said.

Officials announced in an email last week to CCAS students that all freshmen, sophomores and undeclared juniors in the school will be assigned a personal academic adviser in a restructuring of the "POD" system, which allowed students to meet with several different advisers based on the first letter of their last name. Officials said they hope the change will increase the number of students who use advising services.

Students were previously assigned to a group of advisers and could choose to make appointments with a single preferred adviser, but students said they felt the system was impersonal. After efforts by Student Association leaders to address advising concerns, CCAS officials piloted a one-on-one advising program last semester for first- and second-year students in POD 3.

Gilda Mossadegh, the director of academic advising for CCAS, said surveys sent out last semester to POD 3 students who used their assigned adviser revealed that about 70 percent of students preferred the individual adviser model. She said about half of those students said the "increased proactive outreach" from an assigned adviser "improved their advising experience" because of the personal connections they made.

"We want students to have the opportunity to build a personal connection with their adviser throughout their academic career at GW," Mossadegh said in an email. "This was a driving force in us expanding the pilot to all advising PODs."

Mossadegh said that under the new system, each adviser will be assigned 250 freshmen, sophomores and undeclared juniors based on prior contact or at random if students have not previously visited advising. She did not specify whether POD 3 students will keep the adviser they were assigned under the pilot program but added that all students can still visit their former POD advisers through appointments, office hours and email.

More than 10 students said the individual adviser system will allow them to maintain a consistent relationship with an adviser who can stay up-to-date with their academic needs.

Nicole Cennamo, a junior majoring in political science and the SA's former vice president for academic affairs, said keeping the framework of the POD system in place while assigning students advisers is the "best of both worlds" because students

will have access to other advisers if their assigned one is busy.

"Since students are assigned someone individually, they do feel they have a more personalized connection and they feel like there's someone there who definitely knows who they are," she said. "At the same time, though, appointment availability is a big thing, so being able to meet anyone from the POD can also help if you have a really quick question."

Gabrielle Rhoads, a sophomore majoring in photojournalism in the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, said balancing her Corcoran and CCAS requirements with those of the Women's Leadership Program "led to a lot of confusion" with advisers last year. She found herself re-explaining her situation to a new POD adviser at each advising appointment she made, Rhoads said.

She said the assigned adviser system should help to better address student concerns since advisers will become "familiar with their students' situations and be able to help them more when unusual expectations are set on them."

The change brings CCAS in line with all 12 of the colleges of arts and sciences at GW's peer schools, which all assign incoming students a personal academic adviser to guide them through any academic issues.

Advising experts said the assigned adviser system allows advisers to get more academically involved with students and better understand what services they need from advising.

Dominic Castillejo, a senior academic adviser at the University of Miami, said having an assigned adviser can help to create a "timeline" of a student's college experience and eliminate the need that arises when a student changes advisers often to re-explain ongoing or systemic issues.

He said that over time, this student-adviser relationship can also help the adviser develop their ties with students and become more successful in their role.

"Knowing that I am the only general adviser assigned to my advisees, I think helps me want to create that strong relationship, just because I know that I'm going to be working with these students for pretty much their entire college careers," he said.

Kelly Johnson, an academic counselor at the University of Rochester, said assigned advisers can also help play a mentorship role in students' personal development along with guiding them through academics.

"It's helpful when you have a smaller cohort of students that you're assigned to because you can get to know them more and meet with them more often or as needed, which can be helpful for the adviser as well," Johnson said.



COURTESY OF NEIL JOHNSON  
Neil Johnson, who led the study, said social media companies should work to wipe out smaller hate groups because they are easier to suppress.

## Research team sets recommendations for removing online hate groups

SHANNON MALLARD

ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

An interdisciplinary research team released four policy suggestions for how social media companies can counteract the spread of hate groups on social media platforms.

Neil Johnson, a professor of physics and the lead author of the study, collaborated with seven researchers from GW and the University of Miami to track online hate groups – or "hate clusters" – and outline steps social media companies can take to mitigate online hate. Researchers and extremism experts said social media companies must enforce stricter standards for content moderation to prevent online hate from manifesting into real-world violence.

Johnson said hate clusters relocate to other social media sites, change geographic locations and translate their posts into other languages to avoid detection from social media content moderators. He said some hate groups, like the Ku Klux Klan, translate their groups' names into Cyrillic script – a writing system used in Slavic languages – to avoid detection from platforms like Facebook.

"They will follow Darwin to the letter in the sense that they will adapt, they will mutate and they will do anything they can to just keep driving," he said.

He said the team primarily examined the social media platforms

Facebook and Vkontatke – a social media site popular in Eastern Europe – for the study and mapped the spread of online hate clusters. The research was affiliated with the Institute for Data, Democracy, and Politics and was mostly unfunded but received a small amount of funding from the U.S. Air Force to support the team's mathematical analysis, Johnson said.

Johnson said social media companies should focus on removing smaller hate clusters from their platforms because the influence of less dominant hate groups will grow over time. He said dampening the influence of larger hate groups – like the KKK – is more difficult because the groups' leaders are "powerful" people who have the resources to sue social media companies for infringing upon their right to free speech.

Johnson said the companies can also adjust their content algorithms to ensure members of hate groups come into contact with anti-hate groups in the form of a group suggestion. He said exposure to the content that anti-hate groups post can neutralize the extremist opinions of members of hate groups.

Most hate groups entertain different social and political ideologies, and engaging hate groups with one another can prompt members to question their worldview, he said. Johnson said that when hate group mem-

bers are presented with ideas that differ from their organization's ideology, they are more likely to lose interest in hateful causes.

"Just as Facebook spends a lot of time promoting that they're bringing people together that have similar likes, what about making suggestions to some of these groups that look like they're hate groups, make suggestions to one that's kind of opposite?" he said.

Johnson said the prevalence of online hate is one of the most "pressing" issues facing society because of the mental "suffering" incurred by the targets of online hate and bullying. He said the research is especially relevant in light of recent shootings in Gilroy, Calif.; El Paso, Texas; and Dayton, Ohio as public concern over the relationship between online hate and violence grows.

Extremism experts said social media platforms should enforce stricter standards for removing hateful content from their websites to ensure online hate does not spark real-world violence.

Vegas Tenold, an investigative researcher in the Anti-Defamation League's Center on Extremism, said social media companies' algorithms bring users with similar interests together to increase engagement within the platforms.

"Social media is designed to push you ever further into whatever in-

terests you have, so they need to look at the way that that propagates and reinforces extremism and racism," he said.

Tenold added that social media platforms are "extremely hesitant" to remove hate speech from their platforms because companies want to avoid the perception that they're infringing on users' rights to free speech. Kristine Hoover, the director of the Institute for Hate Studies at Gonzaga University, said that users' latent resentment against racial, religious and other groups is amplified when they're constantly exposed to hateful online content, which can ultimately lead to members of online hate groups engaging in acts of violence.

"It provides an avenue for people to begin moving through that pyramid of hate," she said.

Peter Simi, an associate professor of sociology at Chapman University who studies extremist groups, said social media platforms serve as mediums for hate groups to provoke and promote violence against targeted groups. He said law enforcement officers must also be involved in tracking online hate to ensure that planned acts of violence do not come to fruition.

"It may or may not take on a specific nature, but it's intended to inform or influence offline activity or behavior," Simi said.

—Ed Presteria contributed reporting.

# GW Hospital faces uptick in medical malpractice lawsuits

**LIA DEGROOT**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

The GW Hospital withstood the greatest number of malpractice lawsuits this summer compared to the last five summers.

Since the last day of spring classes, complainants sued the GW Hospital four times in the U.S. District Court and in the D.C. Superior Court, three of which alleged medical malpractice. The hospital has faced only one malpractice case each summer since 2016.

A man most recently sued the hospital last Monday alleging a GW Hospital nurse improperly removed a catheter from his body in August of 2016. A man sued the hospital in July claiming that hospital staff improperly treated him for an ulcer.

A woman filed suit against the hospital at the end of July alleging that GW Hospital doctors improperly removed a stent – a tube placed in an artery to aid healing – in her chest, moving her colon. The mistake required the woman to undergo additional surgical procedures, according to the complaint.

Christine Seawright, a hospital spokeswoman, did not return multiple requests for comment.

Experts in health law said an uptick in malpractice cases cannot always be attributed to a single issue, but hospitals should adjust standardized treatment practices to reduce the risk that a patient brings a suit against them.

Michael Shapiro, a law professor at the University of Southern California, said potential effects of an increase in malpractice cases depends on the aspects of each case, like



The GW Hospital has faced five lawsuits this summer, the highest number in five years. ALEXANDER WELLING | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

the type and damages.

“Responses to an increase in suits, in general, or at a particular institution, can vary widely and may even be paradoxical in a few cases,” Shapiro said in an email.

He said hospitals could buy more insurance, raise charges for patients and “reduce compensation” to staff to lower the chance of a medical malpractice case. Hospitals can also update safety and training procedures, lower staff pay or increase medical charges to cover legal costs, Shapiro said.

Jeff Rubin, an economics professor at Rutgers University who specializes in health economics, said hospitals should re-evaluate their routine prac-

tices, like double-checking patients’ vitals and medications, when there is an uptick in malpractice lawsuits.

A report from CRICO Strategies – the medical liability insurance provider for Harvard University medical institutions – found that nationwide medical malpractice cases are decreasing, but legal costs for hospitals are increasing. From 2007 to 2016, the rate of malpractice lawsuits per 100 doctors decreased by 27 percent, according to CRICO’s research.

Defending a malpractice lawsuit declined 3.5 percent annually from 2007 to 2016, from \$36,000 to \$46,000, according to CRICO’s research.

“What you’d like to hope is that it affects their care level, in that they’re going to ensure that their employees are doing things that are aligned with better care,” Rubin said.

He said hospitals could emphasize patient safety and ensure procedures are in place for checking patients’ vitals and medications to curb the possibility of a malpractice claim against the hospital.

“If you have a particular physician that is doing something a little more risky than normal, that may mean the hospital is getting dragged in, simply because you’d be foolish to sue the physician and not the hospital as well,” Rubin said.

He added that an increase

or decrease in malpractice lawsuits could be attributed to a failure to diagnose or properly treat a patient, and that GW’s rate of lawsuits per summer is extremely low relative to other U.S. hospitals.

“It may well just be they happen to have three more angry than normal people this year,” Rubin said. “But there’s no basis in fact that the hospital is doing anything more or less wrong.”

Kathryn Zeiler, a law professor at Boston University, said university hospitals are more likely to have lawsuits against them because physicians-in-training work at the hospitals, which often means less experienced staff members treat patients.

She said many hospitals provide means for doctors to report adverse events that could result in a claim against them to the risk management team before the patient has filed a formal claim.

“The medical staff and the doctor will apologize to the patient,” Zeiler said. “That’s a big component of these new systems, or new ways of dealing with these claims, to offer an apology.”

She said that many hospitals are moving toward using this system to cut litigation costs. Zeiler said D.C. law does not cap the amount of money that juries can grant plaintiffs, which leads to more verdicts than settlements or dismissals.

“It’s generally when the patient lives and has ongoing medical costs that add up over a lifetime, or lost wages add up over a lifetime,” she said. “Those can be high damages claims.”

—Ciara Regan contributed reporting.



Kin's Sushi is one of five dining partners to join the University's meal deal program this fall. ARIELLE BADER | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

## Five vendors join meal deal list amid stagnant program interest

**ILENA PENG**  
CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

Five new restaurants on and near campus added discounted meal prices for students to their menus this summer.

Twenty-eight of the University’s more than 100 dining partners offer meal deals, or special offers of \$6 breakfasts, \$8 lunches or \$10 dinners. Restaurant owners said they decided to participate in meal deals to offer affordable dining options for students and garner more business.

Officials launched the Meal Deals program in 2016, months after shifting to an open dining system. But the University has struggled to add new vendors to the program because several restaurants offer meals at lower prices than the restrictions set by the meal deals program. Twenty-eight vendors now offer meal deals, compared to 25 locations that had signed on by last spring.

“We’re really excited to get started on it,” Ashley Olexa, the executive chef at Circle Bistro, said.

### Circle Bistro, 1 Washington Circle

Circle Bistro, a restaurant located in One Washington Circle Hotel, added several new deals and joined the GWorld program Friday. The ho-

tel will house juniors and seniors temporarily while GW renovates Thurston Hall.

The restaurant now offers a \$6 breakfast option of cinnamon oatmeal topped with bananas, blackberries and honey, served with coffee, hot tea or juice.

Students can buy a chopped salad for \$8 and grilled cheese with french fries or a cup of soup for a \$10 dinner. Both the lunch and dinner deals are served with iced tea or lemonade.

“We wanted to just make ourselves available,” Olexa, the hotel’s executive chef, said. “We know the GWorld program is really popular and wanted to open that kind of payment option up to students.”

### Kin's Sushi, 2121 H St.

Kin’s Sushi – which opened in District House last month, replacing Onolicious Poke – added a meal deal to its menu Thursday. The restaurant offers either a poke bowl with unlimited toppings or one standard sushi roll with a drink for an \$8 lunch deal. The \$10 dinner meal is a poke bowl with unlimited toppings and a side of four dumplings.

“My whole mission when I opened the restaurant was to have affordable meal options for students and different, not

just poke bowls like how Onolicious used to be, but also vegetarian and vegan-friendly options,” owner and alumna Khin Ngon said.

### Panera Bread, 800 21st St.

Students looking for breakfast at Panera Bread can choose one of three sandwiches – either maple-glazed bacon, mediterranean egg white or chipotle chicken and avocado – along with water, coffee or tea as part of a \$6 breakfast.

For \$8, students can buy either a sandwich, salad or bowl of soup, while \$10 covers a “You Pick 2” – a choice of half a sandwich, a bowl of soup or a salad. Both the dinner and lunch options are available all day and come with a side and a beverage.

General manager Eko Buntoro said Panera began offering meal deals last week as part of its contract with the University. Panera also expanded its hours and offered free snacks during finals last year.

“Hopefully it’s going to boost our sales, too, because more and more students are coming,” Buntoro said.

### Flower Child, 2112 Pennsylvania Ave.

Flower Child, a restaurant lauded for its vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free options, opened this

February and added two meal deals in May, general manager Catherine Rivera said.

The restaurant’s \$8 lunch deal consists of a choice of a skinny cobb or chopped vegetable salad, plus a 16-ounce drink. For \$10, Flower Child offers either a glow bowl or forbidden rice bowl with a 16-ounce drink.

“We wanted to give students something healthy and good for their bodies at a reasonable price because they’re college students,” Rivera said. “For dinner, we gave them something heartier because I know that most people want a bigger dinner, and for lunch, we kept it light because they’re usually on the go and it’s something that’s easy.”

South Block, 2301 G St. South Block has been offering smoothies and smoothie bowls in Lerner Health and Wellness Center since 2015, before the store’s rebranding. South Block began offering an \$8 meal deal for avocado or beet hummus toast with any alkaline water last semester, South Block founder Amir Mostafavi said.

“The University wanted businesses to offer a food item and a drink,” Mostafavi said in an email. “Our smoothies and açai bowls did not really fit the structure for a meal deal that the University was wanting to introduce.”

## Class of 2023 receives reusable water bottles to reduce plastic waste

**SHANNON MALLARD**  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Incoming students can track how many plastic bottles they save through an app after receiving reusable water bottles at this year’s orientation.

Senior Melody Asadpour announced at a New Student Orientation event Wednesday that incoming freshmen will be given reusable water bottles from Cupanion – a reusable water bottle company – and a scannable barcode tag that tracks how many single-use plastic water bottles students – and GW – are saving. Sustainability experts said the world-wide initiative, called “Fill it Forward,” will encourage participants to develop more sustainable habits throughout their college careers.

Asadpour said students can pick up the bottles on the first floor of the Marvin Center. Fill it Forward also donates to clean water projects like Dig Deep and Water First every time users refill their reusable bottle, according to the initiative’s website.

“Sustainability is a key initiative at GW, and this is a small way we can do our part,” she said.

Alumna Mia Simonetti brought the national “Take Back the Tap” initiative to GW last year to encourage students to drink tap water to preserve water resources and decrease plastic water bottle usage. Simonetti lobbied GW to add more water bottle refill stations for students.

Last September, the University declined to disclose whether GW met its goal to slash overall water consumption on campus by 25 percent by the end of fiscal year 2018, saying GW was developing a sustainability report. The University’s GWater Plan aims to decrease total water consumption and reduce GW’s impact on the Potomac and Anacostia rivers’ watersheds by 2021.

The plan also aims to reduce water bottle usage, improve water quality and increase rainwater retention. Officials installed filtered water stations in residence halls on the Mount Vernon Campus in April, and faculty and staff can submit requests to their building’s finance director to add a water bottle refill station through the Sustainable GW website.

Noah Swistak, the membership development manager at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, said the initiative will save energy needed

to manufacture, fill and transport plastic water bottles.

He said that if “respected” higher education institutions take an active role in reducing single-use plastic bottle consumption, other universities and the general public may be encouraged to follow suit.

Swistack said that involving students in sustainability initiatives in their college careers will help them realize that relying less on single-use items, like straws and plastic bottles, is an easy habit to form. D.C. instituted a ban on plastic straws and stirrers in January 2019.

“This sort of initiative is the perfect thing to get incoming freshmen set out on a path to engage with sustainability work on their campuses,” he said.

Nathan Jandl, the assistant director of sustainability at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, said cutting down on plastic bottle use is an “easy” way to begin engaging incoming students in lifelong sustainability initiatives.

“It’s important for universities to generate and test out innovative ideas for engaging students in sustainability,” Jandl said in an email.

Blake Rupe, the sustainability program manager and sustainable water development program coordinator at the University of Iowa, said in an email that many students lack the resources to completely diminish their carbon footprint through measures like electric cars, but many universities still offer students opportunities to make environmentally conscious choices, like using reusable water bottles.

“It may not be feasible or possible for students to buy an electric car, but it is possible to choose reusable bottles, reusable bags and refuse straws,” Rupe said in an email. “Those little choices we make every day add up, have much bigger impacts than we think.”

She added that small steps, like forgoing single-use plastic water bottles, can help students feel like they’re contributing to a sustainability campus culture.

“We know that sometimes it can be incredibly hard to practice eco-positivity in our everyday lives, so hopefully something as simple as seeing the impact of reusable bottles on campus can help students feel like they are a part of the solution and want to continue to engage with sustainability in their college careers and beyond,” Rupe said.

—Lizzie Mintz and Ed Prestera contributed reporting.

# Students are part of the push to unseat Evans

STAFF EDITORIAL

After about three decades of Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans representing Foggy Bottom, residents want a new face in town.

Evans has not faced an opponent since 2008. But as allegations of corruption dog his reputation and place him in the spotlight of a criminal investigation, he now faces five challengers running to get him out of office. Students might not know about Evans or the allegations against him, but he represents Foggy Bottom and has been part of talks to build a new hospital, construct a helipad and commit to renewable energy by 2032. Even if students are not registered to vote in D.C., they should care about who represents the place where they live for the majority of the year.

Legislation passed by the D.C. Council impacts student life and the University because it governs what students and officials can do to the campus. Allegations of corruption against Evans only weaken the trust between students and residents and their representatives.

Five candidates are

in the race to unseat an embattled politician, and students should be part of the effort too. Students need to take an active role in the push to oust Evans so Ward 2 can be represented by someone who fights for residents and not corporate interests.

Students are politically active about democracy worldwide, so they should focus their energy on what's going on in their own backyard. Evans has been accused of corruption and faced several inves-

tigations into his misuse of power. Over the summer, the Council removed him from his committee chairmanship and launched a probe into his business dealings after a Metro ethics board found he violated rules relating to conflicts of interest. Evans later resigned from the Metro board.

Although students may feel that the politics of D.C. and Ward 2 do not directly impact them, they need to understand that what the Council does can also

impact what the University has the ability to do on its campus.

In the past few years, the Council has voted to raise the minimum wage to \$15 by 2020 and ban plastic straws across the District. Transportation changes like making the Circulator free impact how students travel around the District. Housing rates for students living off campus or living in D.C. after college can be set by the Council. Councilmembers can also vote to limit or control the number

of students allowed to live off campus.

Candidates looking to take Evans' spot have a chance to give Ward 2 a fresh start, and students should help to move the needle forward. A new councilmember will change the way Ward 2 is represented and give both students and residents more trust in the person fighting for issues that affect the community.

The best way for students to take part in the race is by educating themselves on Evans and

the platforms of candidates vying for his seat. Students should encourage residents to vote, educate themselves and others on the politics of the race or even join a campaign and help get a candidate's message out by canvassing. On a group level, student organizations like the GW College Democrats or College Republicans can focus on this election instead of only preparing for the national presidential election. Both student organizations have been known to cross state lines and help candidates on the campaign trail, and there is no reason they cannot do the same in their own backyard.

Students cannot be expected to attend a Council meeting, but students should be expected to know the issues facing Ward 2 and the legislation over which the Ward 2 councilmember has influence. Although the politics of D.C. and Ward 2 may seem distant to many students, taking an active role in this upcoming election would impact the person who will next represent Ward 2.



Cartoon by Jeanne Franchesca Dela Cruz

## Summer online classes should better accommodate working students

When students broke for the summer, some took on internships and jobs accompanied by online classes. They are an easy way to stay ahead on credits away from campus, but in my experience, the online courses wound up being inconvenient and unaccommodating for working students.

Jack Murphy  
Columnist

Each year, thousands of students enroll in online classes hoping to continue their studies into the summer without spending money to stay in D.C. Although the classes did not require me to be at GW, deadlines were often scheduled during business hours and conflicted with my summer work schedules. Professors also swapped out in-person lectures with daily assignments, making the course difficult to keep up with on a daily basis. Professors should tailor their online courses to the schedules of working students who often cannot meet business hour deadlines.

I took two online summer courses while working full-time in Maryland. Many of my online classmates lived abroad or worked full-time like me. But in my first course, many due dates were scheduled in the middle of the work day, and I struggled to turn in assignments every day. In my other class, my professor compensated for a lack of in-person class time with daily reading assignments that made my work-life balance nearly unmanageable.

For students like me who moved out of D.C. for the summer to work full-time jobs, deadlines during work hours are tough to meet. Courses held on campus do not have the same problem because schedules are set well before the course begins, and deadlines correspond to class times that are typically not every day. Daily deadlines also force students to constantly

be academically "on" — always concerned about the next assignment or due date — which can contribute to burnout with a demanding work schedule. Professors need to be conscious of students' other obligations during the summer and allow students more flexibility in their class deadlines.

Daily deadlines can also pose a larger burden on international students who work under a different time zone. For example, an 11 a.m. deadline in D.C. may translate to a 5 p.m. deadline in parts of Europe or an 11 p.m. deadline in China. Students taking these courses have to rework their entire daily schedule just to meet hard deadlines set in other time zones. The University cannot treat all courses as if they were taught in the District. Deadlines should reflect the actual working hours of those who study in foreign countries, not those who live in D.C.

Tough-to-meet deadlines should not make academic success for an online class difficult. Assignments should be due at the end of each week rather than every day. I would prefer to focus on coursework on my days off rather than try to fit in studying on busy work days.

My online classes were less convenient than in-person courses. But professors who teach online classes can help students in different time zones or those with work schedules by setting end-of-week deadlines and offering more flexibility to international students or students across the country.

I took online classes for the flexibility to take courses on my time. I soon found that these classes made up for the lack of in-class time by requiring daily assignments, often due in the middle of my work day. By reducing and rescheduling online class deadlines, online classes can be more accessible for the thousands of students who take them.

—Jack Murphy, a sophomore majoring in philosophy, is a columnist.

## LeBlanc's idea to cut undergraduate enrollment deserves more deliberation

University President Thomas LeBlanc likes to close meetings with thought-provoking big-picture ideas. In an email just after GW left town for the summer, he proposed to both reduce GW's undergraduate population by 20 percent and grow the number of science, technology, engineering and mathematics majors. The Board of Trustees appeared sufficiently enchanted to approve this.

Harald Griesshammer

Physics professor, Faculty Senate member on sabbatical

The reporting phase of LeBlanc's five strategic initiatives detailed where GW's student and research culture must change. But in academia, we review pros and cons, and then plan before acting. End-of-meeting brainstorming and website feedback are a good start but cannot replace that. Catchphrases that LeBlanc uses like "right-sizing" and "better, not bigger" do not justify "smaller."

In shared governance, academic decisions must follow meaningful consultation of the elected faculty representatives in the Faculty Senate and committees. They have not spoken yet. In matters as fundamental as this one, their expert advice is near-binding and can be overruled only in rare circumstances. As the change would affect present and future students quite a bit, the Student Association has a say, too. Besides the formal argument for consultation, one should remember that a broad consensus of those who actually live the change is imperative for its success. So let us talk about intended and unintended consequences of both the reduction and STEM growth.

If admissions decrease, GW will at first appear more selective and thus rise spectacularly in some university

rankings. But as prospective students adjust to what would be GW's new normal admissions policy, it will resume its original place within a few years. How can a more selective GW continue to become more diverse and inclusive, given the strong correlation of test scores, ethnicity and parent income?

What could students see, besides 2,400 fewer peers? Possibly shorter queues and improved services, if that budget is not cut commensurately. But the change does not solve GW's systemic bureaucratic excess and turf wars. Those might actually increase as the fight for pieces of a smaller pie heats up. More STEM means more than 20 percent reductions in non-STEM, some of which are GW's strengths. Who will pick winners and losers? For undergraduates, the position of the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences will be crucial since it teaches the liberal arts curriculum for all and hosts half of GW's majors, plus all science and math. But for undisclosed reasons, the search for its dean is on hold, unlike other searches. As CCAS faculty is quite vocal and enthusiastically backs its interim dean, it is hopefully not marginalized. Likewise, will the next provost, hired to execute the idea, be comfortable to provide candid advice or partake in an echo chamber?

Losing 2,400 students means losing up to \$100 million in revenue — or 10 percent. So how do we improve the student experience, make GW a true research university and balance the budget at the same time? Certainly not by fewer student services, fewer tenure-line faculty, less research, more teaching outsourced to adjuncts, larger classes or more debt. Higher net tuition would reinforce the very image as a school for the wealthy that we want to shed. Maybe the market allows for more master's students, but that should be studied carefully.

And how would GW change when graduates outnumber undergraduates?

Populists talk up savings from "administrative waste," "synergies" and "centralization." But GW's central units just suffered years of 5 percent cuts, which are largely responsible for substandard services. With a host of activities triggered by the culture initiative's findings, GW implies its struggle to recruit and retain competent staff, overworked and underpaid as they are. That costs money. It is hard to see how further cuts will help. GW is finally decentralizing, meaning it puts service close to need. That is not just good corporate practice, it strengthens the bond between faculty, staff and students. Two examples: That research awards are now administered by schools re-investigated the Office for Research; and CCAS's Office of Technology Services unit serves many student and faculty needs, which the central Division of Information Technology can or will not. We need more such smart decentralization, not central power-grabs.

As GW aspires to "be a preeminent comprehensive global research university" and U.S. higher education is too expensive and too elitist, LeBlanc's bold idea is worth close examination. There are no simple answers. We need to combine remedies. Let us discuss its feasibility and consequences with all deliberate haste to find the right mix. Let us weigh pros and cons before rushing to action. Let decisions be informed by facts and likely outcomes. Change of this magnitude needs not just strong but passionate support by staff, students and faculty. In this crucial time, let your voice be heard, let your expertise be an impact. Let us not shoot first and ask questions later.

—The author sits on no Faculty Senate committee since he is on sabbatical.

## GAMES OF THE WEEK



**WOMEN'S SOCCER**  
vs. NC State  
Sunday | 1 p.m.  
Women's soccer begins its five-game homestand looking to avenge last season's loss to the Wolfpack.



**VOLLEYBALL**  
at the DC Challenge  
Friday & Saturday  
Volleyball will host Hartford, American and Howard for the annual DC Challenge to kick off its season.

## NUMBER CRUNCH

3

The number of shots on goal junior midfielder Kelly Amador took against William and Mary, comprising half of the total shots on goal taken by the entire roster.

# Offseason highlights: What you missed from the Colonials this summer

**BELLE LONG**  
CONTRIBUTING SPORTS EDITOR

Every sports fan knows the term offseason shouldn't be taken loosely. While competition ceases, off-field action ramps up. Here are the top signings, releases and other developments across GW sports that you may have missed this summer:

### Baseball

Baseball made additions to both its roster and its coaching staff. A 13-player recruiting class with stand-out players, like freshman utility player Joe Biancone, will join the Colonials next season. The squad hopes to return to the postseason after falling short for the first time in five years.

The Colonials are also adding new names to their coaching staff this offseason. Recent Hofstra graduate Tim Dold will serve as



ARIELLE BADER | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR  
The Smith Center will receive a new scoreboard and a court redesign before the start of the basketball season.

the director of baseball operations, and 2019 Virginia Military Institute graduate Ryan Smoot was tapped as

a volunteer assistant coach.

### Women's basketball

Head coach Jennifer

Rizzotti added two graduate student transfers – guard Ariel Stephenson and forward Alexandra

Maund, who both have three seasons of collegiate play under their belt – to the roster this season. Freshman forward Faith Blethen and freshman guard Essence Brown will also join GW on the hardwood this season.

Recently graduated point guard Mei-Lyn Bautista was nominated for the NCAA Woman of the Year Award. The former leading scorer for the Colonials also announced this summer that she will continue her professional basketball career as a member of the Gilas Pilipinas women's team.

Outside of GW, Rizzotti was named an assistant coach in June for the USA Basketball Women's National Team for the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

### Men's soccer

Last season, junior midfielder and forward Oscar Haynes Brown had a breakout offensive performance,

becoming the first Colonial to score double-digit goals in a single season since 2011. His contributions paid off this summer with a nomination for the Atlantic 10 Preseason All-Conference team.

### Women's soccer

On the women's side, redshirt senior defender Megan McCormick earned a place on the A-10 Preseason All-Conference team. She helped shut out five opponents last season and turned in her best offensive showing of the season against Delaware, logging one goal, two assists and six shots on frame.

The team also added five new players to its roster in June, including three transfers and two freshmen.

## GWHATCET.COM

For more of the top summer sports stories.



HATCHET FILE PHOTO  
In her second year, athletic director Tanya Vogel said she wants to bolster her relationship with athletes and coaches and oversee a Smith Center revamp.

## Vogel aims to strengthen relationships, upgrade Smith Center

**EMILY MAISE**  
SPORTS EDITOR

When athletic director Tanya Vogel took over the department last year, she set her sights on becoming an accessible administrator to student-athletes and coaches.

But Vogel said she lacked the resources to fulfill her first-year promises, grading herself with a "C, C minus" in her first year at the helm. The third athletic director in 25 years, Vogel entered a department hit by allegations of misconduct from the former head.

Heading into year No. 2, Vogel said she developed a system to meet her initial goal – including scheduling meetings with coaches and regular office hours – and mapped out new initiatives, like a Smith Center revamp. She said forming relationships is the foundation for "everything," especially for boosting enthusiasm from the 27 teams she oversees.

"We should all want to do that to the best of our ability to make GW better, and my hope is that our department embodies that," Vogel said.

**Strengthening relationships**  
Vogel said that while the task may seem "silly," she wants to learn and remember the name of every member of the athletic department. She said she cannot build a strong relationship without knowing someone's name.

"It's going to take a little bit of time," Vogel said. "I do think it's at the root of building relationships and everything that we do in higher ed, but definitely athletics is geared and kind of grounded in relationships."

She said she spent the spring and summer months regrouping and devising a tangible plan to be more accessible to students and coaches. Vogel said she organized regular office

hours and plans to meet with every head coach three times per year – once in the preseason, once in the postseason and once out of season.

Twenty head coaches head GW's 27 varsity programs, with three being responsible for 10 teams. Anderson Good coaches men's and women's squash, and Barry King leads the men's and women's water polo squads. Terry Weir coaches six programs, including men's and women's cross country, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field.

"Every preseason meeting is also a postseason, an offseason meeting, so it gets a little nuanced with sports that go year-round," Vogel said.

Preseason meetings consist of program-wide goal setting and talks about team personnel and the squads' schedules, she said. Vogel said she wants coaches to review the season and evaluate their success in competition in postseason, while offseason meetings are used to draft long-term goals and foster professional development.

"We hire head coaches to be really narrowly focused on their program, but offseason meetings give them a chance to pan backwards a little bit and have a little bit more perspective, and talk a little bit more about future planning and preparation," she said.

Vogel will also work more closely with sports administrators, who act as "an advocate and resource" for student-athletes and coaches, to attend practices and games.

"I now have a systematic approach to it, so every single month I would make sure I'm out at practices with the sports administrator, who is positioned to best support those students and coaches," she said.

### Revamping the Smith

### Center

Athletic department officials announced an updated court design and a new scoreboard in July for the upcoming 2019-20 season as part of a series of upgrades to the Smith Center that will roll out in the coming months.

Vogel said her desire for the Smith Center to be a community epicenter and landmark on campus inspired the upgrades. She said she wants to pack crowds into the building and host local high schools and Foggy Bottom residents for events and games.

"We want to be a center where people, students, faculty, staff, alum, Foggy Bottom residents, come together and celebrate," she said.

Vogel added that students can expect one update to the center's exterior. She declined to name the change, saying details will be unveiled throughout the course of the academic year.

She said the full renovations are set to be completed prior to men's and women's basketball's opening day. The men's squad is to embark on its first non-conference game of the season Nov. 9 against Howard. The women follow closely behind, opening their regular season Nov. 10 against Princeton.

Athletic department officials enlisted Populous, a Kansas City, Mo.-based architecture firm, to take on the changes, she said. Vogel declined to state the total cost of the changes but said GW is receiving funding from philanthropy and corporate partners.

"We want to, as staff members here, be changing the world through all of our students, all of our faculty and all of our staff, one life at a time," Vogel said. "So my hope is that the department under my leadership exemplifies that."

–Belle Long contributed reporting.

## Student leaders rename Colonial Army, expand programming

**EMILY MAISE**  
SPORTS EDITOR

Student leaders announced plans Sunday to overhaul the Colonial Army, including a name change and more opportunities to cheer from the sidelines.

The organization rebranded itself with the moniker "George's Army" and plans to offer students perks, like scheduled talks with basketball teams' coaches and opportunities to travel to away games and attend Smith Center events. Student leaders said they hope the changes will remedy the group's declining participation and wavering basketball game attendance.

"It hasn't been doing great the past three or four years, so let's put a brand new coat of paint on it," Glass said.

Members of George's Army can sit down with men's basketball head coach Jamion Christian and women's basketball head coach Jennifer Rizzotti in "chalk talk" sessions to learn more about the team's strategies and players.

Glass said group members will be provided bus transportation to a select number of away games and can also attend events in the Smith Center in spaces previously unavailable to students. The student organization is also working to secure restaurant discounts on game days.

George's Army will also receive a refurbished logo, but Glass called the name change the "cherry on top." He said members of the

group's executive board wanted to center the organization around one figure and chose the University's mascot, George.

Glass said the organization did not consider the recent push for the University to ditch the Colonials nickname as a reason to rename the group.

"We thought the name, regardless of the politics around it, was dull and that we could do much better," Glass said.

On average, men's basketball's home attendance has decreased by about 250 people per season since the 2014-15 season, with the 2018-19 season reaching 2,382 people per home game – its lowest average turnout since the 2010-11 season.

The women's team has attracted fluctuating numbers of people to the Smith Center, peaking at a decade-high 1,064 fans per home game during the Colonials' 2015-16 campaign. After dipping in the interim, the average home game attendance was on the rise for the 2018-19 season, reaching 984 fans.

Glass said the lackluster 2018-19 campaigns from the men's and women's basketball programs also prompted the changes. He said the organization needed to conjure new ways to excite fans even when the two teams were losing.

"We felt that by offering other stuff for people to come and get excited about beside the game, that would be able to engage the fanbase over a longer period of time," he said.

The men's team finished the year 9-24 and 6-11 at

the Smith Center. The women's squad ended its season 10-20 with nine losses on its home court.

Junior ShanTorrian Underwood, an executive board member, said members of George's Army will reach out to the GW community about both sporting and organization events through email, flyers and posters around campus.

Senior executive board member Charlotte Gaynor said a lack of communication between prospective members and the former executive boards prevented her from joining the Colonial Army her freshman year. She said members of the rebranded organization want to foster a larger community.

"They just don't have to come to the basketball games or any sports games just as themselves, but they can come with other students from GW and be part of the student section," Gaynor said.

Gaynor added that members of the organization are looking to expand their support to teams outside of the two basketball programs in the future.

"We also have people who are a part of George's Army who are on different sports teams, and so I think by having those people here, it gives us even more of a push to be more inclusive of all the sports," she said.

Gaynor, who rowed in high school, said she has experienced the uplifting power that a strong fanbase can hold and wants George's Army to support GW's athletes in the same way.

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# 2019 WELCOME BACK GUIDE

## READ UP ON THE TOP HEADLINES OF SUMMER



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FILE PHOTO BY JACK FONSECA | CONTRIBUTING PHOTO EDITOR

### RACHEL ARMANY REPORTER

It's easy to lose touch with University news when you're off campus. If you're returning this fall and want to catch up on this summer's headlines, here are some stories you may have missed:

#### Administrative departures and hires

Laurie Koehler, the former senior vice provost for enrollment and the student experience, stepped down from her position on Aug. 7 to serve as the vice president for marketing and enrollment strategy at Ithaca College. In addition to Koehler's departure, Dean of Admissions Costas Solomou resigned on Aug. 2 to serve as the vice president for enrollment at State University of New York at Geneseo.

Sanjit Sethi, the former director of the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, left his po-

sition in July to serve as president of the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. Corcoran Assistant Director for Academic Affairs Kym Rice, who teaches museum studies at GW, took over as the interim director this fall.

Officials also announced that Dana Bradley was selected as GW's first-ever chief people officer in July, part of University President Thomas LeBlanc's push to bolster human resources and institutional culture. Mary Tschirhart, a former professor at Ohio State University, was also selected in early August to helm the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration.

#### LeBlanc plans to cut enrollment, ditch fixed tuition

LeBlanc announced plans in July to reduce undergraduate enrollment by 20 percent over a period of five years and increase the number of science,

technology, engineering and math majors. He said the rising undergraduate population has "stretched" the University's resources.

Officials also announced last week that beginning with the Class of 2024, students will no longer pay a fixed tuition.

#### Jack Evans probe

After reports surfaced in March claiming that former Metro board chairman and Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans used his position for personal benefit, a Metro board ethics investigation found in June that he violated ethics codes relating to conflicts of interest. Since then, members of the D.C. Council voted to remove Evans from his committee chairmanship and launched an investigation into his business dealings. Five Ward 2 residents have also launched bids to unseat him, becoming Evans' first rivals since 2000.

Following the investigation, Evans stepped down from his position as Metro chairman, admitting in a letter that he violated ethics codes. More recently, the D.C. ethics board fined Evans \$20,000 for using government resources to seek employment at local law firms.

#### Lawsuits

Two separate lawsuits were filed against the GW Hospital. A man sued the hospital in late July for alleged medical malpractice, claiming that he was improperly treated for an ulcer in 2017. In the same week, a woman also sued the hospital for alleged negligence during a surgery on her artery in 2016.

A former technology research director also sued the University for wrongful termination, alleging that GW violated D.C. laws by firing him after he was diagnosed with cancer. A woman sued the law school for alleged religious discrimi-

nation, saying admissions officials discriminated against her as a "Roman Catholic female."

#### GW misses Princeton Review rankings

For the second year in a row, GW did not make the list for "Most Politically Active Students" in the country by The Princeton Review. GW was ranked No. 1 on the list for four years in a row and fell to No. 10 in 2017.

#### All tap access

All students are granted tap access to residence halls this fall, continuing a pilot program that began with only first-year students in the spring. Student Association President SJ Matthews ran on a platform of providing students with tap access to every residence hall last semester and during her time as Residence Hall Association president.

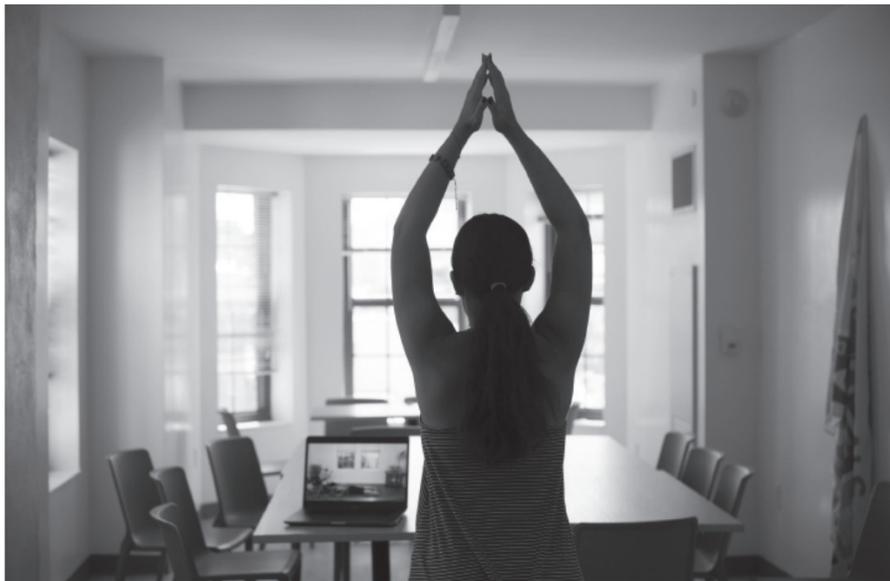


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION ARIELLE BADER | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

Students can download apps to guide their workouts in their residence hall room.

## NEW YEAR, NEW HEALTHY HABITS: STAYING IN SHAPE WITH A PACKED SCHEDULE

### ANNA BOONE STAFF WRITER

College marks the beginning of your independent self-care journey.

No one is helping you make healthy food choices or scheduling time for you to exercise, so you need to make time for yourself. When the chaos of classes, clubs and social events kicks in, forming healthy habits can be hard to maintain. Read these tips to make you a happier, healthier and more organized student this academic year:

#### Download healthy lifestyle apps

You always have your phone on you, so let it tell you to get in a workout. If you love yoga but don't want to pay for classes, download Down Dog, which allows users with all levels of yoga experience to customize their voice-guided yoga session. You can choose the instruction voice, length of class, focus area and type of yoga that best fits your preferences.

Free, available on Google Play and the App Store.

You may be in the mood to hit the gym but don't want to work out in front of your peers. Luckily, Bodyweight: Your Own Gym is an app that provides users with up to 200 exercises that can be completed in your residence hall room.

\$4.99 to download, plus workout packages ranging from \$2.99 to \$19.99 per month. Available on Google Play and the App Store.

Foodstand is a free healthy habit training app. The app challenges users to take on certain challenges

like avoiding processed sugars at breakfast, eating less meat or eating three servings of fruit per day. Users check into the app each day to track their progress and develop more mindful eating habits.

Free, available on Google Play and the App Store.

#### Make time for workout classes

ClassPass is a monthly membership app and website that allows you to attend studio classes around the District. You can purchase monthly plans including a 27 credit plan (\$49) that allows you to book up to five classes, a 45 credit plan (\$79) that allows you to book up to nine classes and an 85 credit plan (\$139) that allows you to book up to 17 classes. You can use your credits to book a spot in fitness classes from barre to boxing to cycling.

Lifestyle, Sport and Physical Activity courses are available to all students with class registration. Students can register for as many LSPA classes as they wish over the course of their four years but will only receive academic credit toward graduation for one course.

Use every last penny of your tuition dollars and register for an LSPA course if you have a spare credit hour. You can sign up for all different types of workouts, including dance conditioning, boxing, barre and weight training. LSPA classes also encourage you to hold yourself accountable because they are pass or fail based on attendance. Milken Institute School of Public Health, 950 New Hampshire Ave. NW.

#### Choose nutritious dining partners

You can make healthy choices at most GW dining partner restaurants, but there are some with the most options for healthy eating and several dining deal options.

For breakfast, head to South Block for a protein smoothie, acai bowl or juice. The joint offers beet hummus or avocado toast with any alkaline water for \$8. You can also receive \$2 off any cold-pressed juice or \$1 off any frozen yogurt.

South Block, 2301 G St. NW. Open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 6 p.m.

For a mid-day meal, grab Beefsteak's lunch special – a 16-ounce juice and Beefsteak burger for \$6.99. The restaurant serves several vegan and vegetarian eats, including make-your-own salads, veggie bowls and sandwiches customized to your liking.

Beefsteak, 22nd and I streets NW. Open daily from 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For dinner, the newly debuted Flower Child on Pennsylvania Avenue serves everything from hearty salads, avocado toast topped with eggs and light wraps. Flower Child offers students a "Glow bowl" – packed with sweet potato noodles, bok choy, zucchini, onion, coconut milk, sunflower butter and jalapeño – or rice bowl with a 16-ounce tea or lemonade for \$11 if you head over for an evening meal.

Flower Child, 2112 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Flower Child, 2112 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

## CAMPUS CLOSURES AND ADDITIONS OVER SUMMER

LIA DEGROOT  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

If you were away from the District this summer, you are coming back to a campus with both vacant lots and new storefronts.

GW brought in some additions like Kin's Sushi in the District House basement and murals on 23rd Street. But don't be alarmed to see that campus hubs like Au Bon Pain and the Foggy Bottom Grocery are missing. From bars and restaurants closing to demolished buildings, here are some changes to campus from the summer.

### WHAT'S BEEN ADDED:

#### Kin's Sushi

This joint, flanked by Wise-guy Pizza and Sol Mexican Grill, replaced Oncolocious Poke in July. The alumna-owned restaurant offers several sushi rolls named after U.S. presidents, like former U.S. presidents Barack Obama, Bill Clinton and Thomas Jefferson. The vendor's GW roll also earned The Hatchet's pick for dish of the week.

#### George Washington mural

Students can now see a mural of former U.S. President George Washington on a wall on 23rd Street. The mural is painted on a section of concrete that leads to an underpass, allowing drivers to view it in passing. The red, yellow and blue mural pictures the first U.S. president's eyes, giving onlookers the impression that they are being watched.

#### Campus renovations

Officials will dole out \$10 million in campus renovations beginning in fiscal year 2020 to fund new flooring in Potomac House and Mitchell Hall and improve outdoor lighting on the Mount Vernon Campus. The remaining funds will help pay for upgrades to spaces in the Marvin Center like the third-floor terrace and install new heating and cooling systems in Building GG, where the psychology department is housed.

#### Duke's Grocery

The British pub-inspired restaurant opened its third location on campus in late May. Located at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue, the menu features everything from burgers and sandwiches to a full brunch menu.

### WHAT'S BEEN CUT:

#### Sign of the Whale

The longstanding bar shuttered its doors in July after nearly half a century of business. The location was a go-to for college students and young professionals who enjoyed the joint's half-off happy hour deals. The bar also hosted several events like an annual ugly sweater party, Greek life events and National Football League watch parties.

#### Buffalo Billiards

Buffalo Billiards, another Dupont Circle hotspot, shut down and will be moved out of its space this month. During its 25 years of operation, Buffalo Billiards was known for its happy hour deals and casual atmosphere. The watering hole shared a building with the bar The Front Page, whose owners decided to move buildings and split the bar up into six sec-

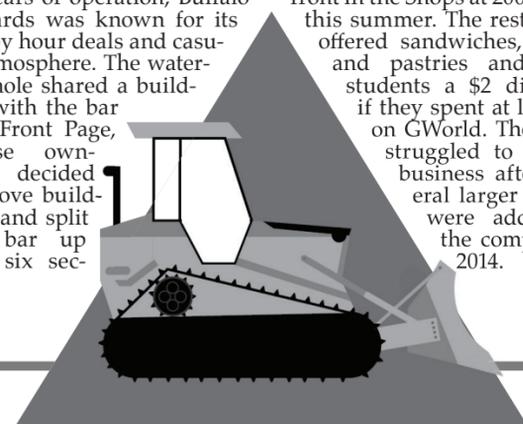
tions.

#### FoBoGro

After a decade of business, the GW grocer shut its doors at the start of the month. The store offered several snacks and drinks for shoppers to pick up. Owner Cathy Martens floated the idea of opening up a third-floor cafe last year, but she declined to answer any questions relating to the store's closure or the status of the cafe after closing shop.

#### Au Bon Pain

The French-inspired sandwich joint has closed its storefront in the Shops at 2000 Penn this summer. The restaurant offered sandwiches, soups and pastries and gave students a \$2 discount if they spent at least \$9 on GWorld. The place struggled to garner business after several larger chains were added to the complex in 2014.



# HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF SYLLABUS WEEK



ARIELLE BÄDER | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR



HATCHET FILE PHOTO



SARAH URTZ | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR



JACK FONSECA | CONTRIBUTING PHOTO EDITOR

**ARIELLE OSTRY**  
STAFF WRITER

Syllabus week shouldn't be stressful, so use your spare time to sightsee, explore restaurants or museums and party on a weeknight. Make your syllabus week silly with activities for all different interests around the District:

## For the museumgoer:

**Yacine Fall: Looking for God:** Fall, a recent graduate of the Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, is presenting an exhibition at Gallery 102. Her work investigates the continuous labor of black people throughout history through visual representations, a theatrical performance and video. Fall draws inspiration from Sufism in Dakar, Senegal, a sect of Islam, in the spiritual exhibition. *Smith Hall of Art, 801 22nd St. NW, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., exhibit runs until Sept. 6.*

**The Music of 1969: Talking 'Bout My Generation:** Visit the Smithsonian's S. Dillon Ripley Center on Aug. 26 for a discussion on the funk and pop music of 1969. Dave Price, a D.C.-based author, will lead the talk alongside songwriter and poet R.G. Evans and Rolling Stones expert Doug Potash. If you can't get enough of the Allman Brothers, Judas Priest or The Beatles' final album, this may be the event for you.

*S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Drive SW, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m., tickets are \$45 for non-members.*

## For the party animal:

**No Scrubs: '90s Dance Party:** The 9:30 Club is hosting a night filled with guilty pleasures and classic hits – the perfect playlist for your first Friday night back in D.C. The largest '90s party in America features DJs Will Eastman and Ozker with a visual light show by Kylos. Revel in the hyped ambiance set by artists including Salt-N-Pepa, Nirvana, Biggie and The Prodigy. *9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW, Friday, Aug. 30, doors at 9 p.m., tickets are \$16.*

**Garbagefest 4:** Black Cat's first Saturday night event of the semester is sponsored by Food Not Bombs. Its fourth annual benefit music festival, Garbagefest, will help raise money to promote vegan eating and providing healthy meals to everyone, including low-income families and the homeless. Featured performers include Ceschi, XK Scenario, Brooklyn the Kid and Wanda Perkins. *Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW, Aug. 31, doors at 8 p.m., tickets are \$15.*

## For the coffee addict:

**Emissary:** This relaxed coffee shop located on P Street offers a cozy atmosphere and delicious coffee and vegetarian eats. In addition to grabbing an iced latte and catching up with friends, you can use the cafe to get a head start on readings that might already be due. Latte prices start at about \$3.50, but the shop's avocado toast (\$12) and breakfast menu, served all day, will fill you up for a meal. *Emissary, 2032 P St. NW, Open Monday through Friday at 7 a.m., Saturday at 7:30 a.m., Sunday at 8 a.m.*

**The Wydown Coffee Bar:** This coffee joint started out as a pop-up migrating around U Street before settling at two permanent locations. Both shops flaunt a rustic interior featuring wooden tables and sleek countertops with friendly staff serving java, baked goods and cocktails in the evening. The 14th Street location is the closest to campus and is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The shop opens on weekends at 7 a.m. *The Wydown Coffee Bar, 1924 14th St. NW, open Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.*

## For the adrenaline junkie:

**Free yoga on the Georgetown Waterfront:** Wellness Corporate Solutions – a health coaching and wellness organization – hosts free yoga every Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m. The event is a great activity to clear your mind, get the endorphins flowing and enjoy some time outdoors. The session takes place at Georgetown's Waterfront Park with a clear view of the Potomac River, and you don't need to be a yogi master to attend. Sunscreen, a water bottle and sunglasses are recommended. *Georgetown Waterfront Park, 3303 Water St. NW, Aug. 31 at 9:30 a.m., Free.*

**Run with D.C. Run Crew:** Running can become boring if you are doing it alone, so enjoy the camaraderie of a group and get outside before summer is officially over. If running is more your speed, do not miss D.C. Run Crew's bi-weekly long runs. D.C. Run Crew welcomes runners of all fitness levels and offers three different run options: easy, intermediate and advanced. *Potomac River Running Store, 919 F St. NW, Aug. 31, 9 a.m., Free.*

## HOW TO NAIL DOWN AN INTERNSHIP THIS FALL

**SIDNEY LEE**  
CULTURE EDITOR

Maybe you spent your summer interning for a company or your local representative. But if you didn't have an internship over the past couple of months, don't sweat. There is still time to line up opportunities for this fall and next semester. If you're trying to nab an internship early in the semester, follow these instructions and you shouldn't need to worry:

### GET TO KNOW YOUR PROFESSOR

At a school as large as GW, it's easy to overlook the connections your professors can afford you. But professors have research endeavors and contacts of working professionals who can give you a leg up in your future career if you use them wisely.

Take some time before or after class to introduce yourself to the professor, especially if you're in a large lecture hall with dozens of other students. Establishing a face-to-face relationship with your professor is the first step to talking with them more personally about your post-college aspirations and getting their insight on careers. Don't be nervous to consistently visit

their office hours or ask them about their work out of the classroom – they will likely enjoy the attention anyway.

If the professor can't hook you up with an internship themselves, you may still know them well enough to ask for a letter of recommendation. If you have a relationship with the professor, they will be more likely to help you and recommend an opportunity they think may be a good fit for your interests. Without a solid one-on-one connection with someone who knows your work ethic and personality, your letters of recommendation will likely turn out dull or generic – and that is if someone agrees to write it.

### USE CAREER SERVICES

The Center for Career Services offers an extensive amount of coaching, from resume and cover letter advice to networking events and interviewing trainings. Both students and alumni can use career services, so you can continue to use the center after you graduate.

In addition to the center's training, the website includes a section that lists jobs and internship opportunities on Handshake, the University's online job portal. You can schedule a free appointment with a career exploration and assessment coach to help you pinpoint your interests and choose a field that may be a good fit for you. You can

also schedule an appointment with an industry career coach for advice on a particular job sector like media, design, arts, communications, science and technology or public relations.

Career services includes international opportunities, too. Using Passport Career, a section of Handshake that gives exclusive access to GW students, you can narrow down opportunities based on where in the country or world you want to work. GW Passport and Global Jobs are additional databases listed on the career services website that students can use to track down opportunities outside of the United States.

### UPDATE YOUR RESUME

This may seem obvious, but keeping your resume up-to-date will make the application process for an internship much smoother.

Comb through your current resume at the beginning of the year and take out any outdated or irrelevant information, like which awards you won in high school or the time you lifeguarded at a YMCA years ago. If you're entering sophomore or junior year, you shouldn't have high school

clubs or accomplishments listed on a resume, so remove them and keep your current extracurriculars.

If you haven't previously taken an internship, you should still keep work experience from the summers you spent home, like being a camp counselor or working a customer service job. Those experiences will help employees understand what skills you can bring to the table when it's time to hire.

### START SCOURING

If the University-wide resources fail you, you've still got your respective school to lean on. Each school uses some method, whether it be through weekly emails or their own respective career services, to keep students up-to-date on internship opportunities. For example, the School of Media and Public Affairs releases a weekly newsletter with a rundown

of jobs and internships.

The GW Alumni Association also connects students with interested alumni through Alumni Industry Networks. By signing up for networking emails, you can pin down an alumni you may want to talk with in areas like health care, marketing and advertising, fashion and technology.



SARAH URTZ | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

Buy a simple white button-down shirt that you can dress up or down for a night out or for class.

## CLOTHING BASICS TO TRANSITION YOU INTO SCHOOL ATTIRE

**MOLLY KAISER**  
CONTRIBUTING CULTURE EDITOR

Instead of investing in loads of clothing to kick off the academic year, anchor your closet with a few thoughtfully chosen staples to help transition from summer to fall. Try these fall basics to add an effortless flair to your outfits and carry you through the rest of the school year:

### Silk scarves

Silk scarves have recently reentered the fashion cycle. They can be used in several different ways, including worn around your neck, tied onto a tote, wrapped around your waist as a belt or tied around your hair as a headband. Choose a solid color or a muted print for a versatile accessory that will go with almost anything.

If you're feeling crafty, make a scarf yourself by cutting a square shape out of an old piece of clothing and sewing the perimeter. You could also purchase the Kristina printed scarf from Anthropologie (\$24.95).

### White button down shirt

While it might seem elementary, investing in a white button-down shirt can dramatically expand your outfit options. A white button-down, like the central shirt (\$49.50) from Madewell, can be dressed up or down for an internship, class or hanging out with friends.

Tuck the shirt into your favorite midi skirt or plaid pants to dress it up, or wear it with an untucked pair of jeans for a more casual look. The lightweight fabric is comfortable for the final summer months and can also be used in the fall with a cardigan.

### Blazer

Everyone needs a basic blazer to rock a job interview, but you can also wear one confidently to class with a pair of jeans or to a party with heels and a silky top. A simple plaid blazer can add

a level of sophistication and maturity to almost any look. Oversized blazers have become especially popular, like the wool oversized blazer (\$180) in black, grey and plaid from the sustainable clothing brand Everlane.

### Wide-leg pants

Wide-leg pants are both comfortable and functional. Paired with a tank, they make a stylish summer look, but they can also be used in the fall with the addition of a jean jacket or pullover sweater.

The pants are more comfortable than some skinny jeans because of their relaxed fit and loose bottoms. For a pair that will last you a while, opt for Everlane's lightweight wide leg cropped chino pant (\$68). The pants come in many solid color options, from white to light blue. For a dressier look, add a pair of heeled clogs. For a laid-back look, pair the pants with sneakers.

### Chain belt

A metal chain belt is a fun way to add a retro vibe to an outfit. Layer it over jeans or a midi skirt to give an edge to a girly look that can be worn to class or out on the town. You may find one from the '80s in your mom's closet, or you can try this silver chain belt from Target (\$15).

### Leather tote bag

For an accessory that will pull together all of the aforementioned items, invest in a medium-sized tote bag to add both style and function to your outfit. Opt for a neutral tone to ensure you get the most use from the bag, like the medium transport tote (\$158) in English saddle from Madewell. There are also vegan options available that utilize faux leather if you are concerned about purchasing real leather, like this one from Free People for \$68.

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