

GW's faculty are important partners who have been actively engaged in the fall planning process. Below is a digest of the fall planning feedback and questions received from faculty as of June 18, broken down by topic:

Returning to Campus

75 responses

General safety

- Requests to continue required mask wearing and provide cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer
- Recommendations to change the schedule to minimize exposure to COVID-19
- Concerns about in-person instruction for the immunocompromised
- Requests for additional opportunities for faculty to provide feedback, based on quantitative data about risks of returning to campus

Course delivery

- Questions about the quality of instruction if instruction is online-only
- Suggestions of implementing open air, outdoor classes
- Endorsements of hybrid courses, some preference for online-only
- Requests to increase number of teaching assistants to better support students
- Requests to provide childcare for faculty and staff or to allow flexibility for those with dependent care needs
- Questions on the cost of tuition if classes remain fully online
- Suggestion to use information and data from other colleges to compare against our new policies
- Suggestion to continue prioritizing student activities and residential experience to students
- How will students be accommodated who are not able to return to D.C.?

General Suggestions

50 responses

Mitigation

- Suggestions to incentivize retirement
- Suggestions to restrict conferences and travel
- Suggestion that faculty or staff may volunteer for furloughs, if they are deemed necessary
- Suggestion that employees take a paycut to reduce burden on a few groups
- Belief that this is a unique opportunity to remove unnecessary administrative positions and help make the university more lean and efficient

General

- Requests for transparency and facts when available from leadership; desire for empathy and increased communications
- Suggestions for inclusion of faculty and students in planning
- Requests for healthcare benefits for part-time faculty and teaching assistants
- Requests for increased cleaning in campus spaces
- Suggestions of scheduled pick-ups for books/interlibrary loans from Gelman Library
- Suggestions of an instructional day to teach students how to be online students
- Requests for flexibility in annual leave policy
- Requests that graduate students should be surveyed regarding their specific needs

Teaching-Related

29 responses

- Requests to provide better spaces for graduate teaching assistant discussion sections
- Suggestions to increase workload for full-time faculty
- Suggestions to refer those who are new to online teaching to successful online programs for training and advice
- Clarify expectations for faculty submitting tenure packages
- Concerns about childcare and safety when commuting to campus
- Requests to look into how to keep students engaged and motivated
- Concerns for experiential learning courses and seminars
- Questions about what methods can replace interactive pedagogy to be more compatible with online or hybrid courses
- Requests to move smaller classes fully online
- Suggestions to minimize face-to-face labs

Technology

6 responses

- Requests to explore different platforms for online classes
- Requests to provide grants or stipends for faculty to go fully online
- Suggestions to identify faculty who need faster computers, better Wi-Fi, or better technology for projecting presentations