Meeting Date: March 5, 2013

Members in attendance: Barbara Albrecht, Robert Berne, John Billings, Sewin Chan, Mary Cowman, Griffin Dooling (for Corey Blay), Mariam Ehrari, Wen-Jui Han, Angela Kamer, Perri Klass, Marty Kurth, Ted Magder (chair), Laurence Maslon, Tony Movshon, Tony Saunders, Rosemary Scanlon, Andrew Schotter, Jalal Shatah, David Vintinner, Larry White, Diane Yu

Members unable to attend: Corey Blay, David Engel, Allyson Green, James Jacobs, Panos Mavromatis, Matt Stanley

1. Call to order and announcements

In addition to the members noted above, Michael Patullo attended as staff coordinator for the Group. Members agreed to schedule an additional plenary meeting of the Working Group on Friday, April 12, 2013, from 2:00-4:00 PM. An additional meeting closer to the end of April, but prior to the final meeting in May, will also be scheduled.

2. Reports from subcommittees

The finance subcommittee reported that members held a meeting with Martin Dorph, Executive Vice President, Finance and Information Technology, on March 4, 2013. The group spent two hours with Dorph, during which he responded to questions posed by subcommittee members in response to his presentation at an earlier plenary session of the Working Group last fall. Topics included: the effect of health operations (the medical school and the hospital) on the finances of the University, the Global Network University, the NYU-Poly integration, and recent financial industry reporting on higher education. The subcommittee also requested budget simulations that take into account various build-out options, timing variations, and market variables, respectively. The subcommittee reported that they were able to cover approximately half of their questions and will schedule another meeting with Dorph to cover the remainder.

The quality of life subcommittee reported that members have conducted two meetings so far. The first, which included Executive Vice President Alison Leary, Senior Vice President Lynne Brown, and Vice President Alicia Hurley, reviewed the final ULURP plan with specific attention paid to the obligations set forth therein by the City Council. The group is currently in the process of discerning which spaces and processes are within NYU’s domain, and is
seeking to examine a broad range of possible construction mitigation strategies. In addition, members noted that the complexity of the environmental details might require external evaluation by an objective party since none of the Working Group members have a working knowledge of the content. The group plans to engage in further discussion with Leary, Brown, and Hurley, and is also hoping to conduct meetings with current tenants in Washington Square Village and Silver Towers, and with the Greenwich Village community in the coming weeks.

The subcommittee on academic and non-academic space reported that members met in late February and formed numerous requests for additional information from and meetings with the University administration. Members noted that their guiding questions in all content areas are: 1) Do we need this space?, 2) Does it need to be in the Core?, and 3) Is it cheaper to build in the Core? In dividing labor, one member is focusing on issues related to student housing—including the volume of students living in dormitories, housing policy, and the quality and acquisition of physical spaces (leased vs. owned). Another pair is focusing on issues of academic space, and is examining spaces recently moved or opened up via the domino effect. Other members are focused on other issue areas, which will be conveyed and reported on once further information has been gathered. All members engaged in a discussion about the characteristics of properties that might be considered as ideal for location within the Core.

3. Reports from meetings with deans and departments

Note: Members of the Working Group are currently in the process of meeting with their respective dean or director to ascertain more about each school’s space needs and to inquire about their process of requesting space from the University administration. Summaries of those meetings will be posted on the Working Group’s Web site.

- **Silver School of Social Work**: Dean Lynn Videka noted that, despite significant expansion of the size of the faculty and student body over the last two to three decades, Silver has undertaken no expansion of space. This lack of space is exacerbated by the needs of an increasing number of faculty engaged in research projects—the research funding has grown from $100,000 to over $17 million per academic year over the same period—and that the School’s research institutes are spread out across campus. Currently, the School maintains only one square foot of space per student and faculty offices are, on average, 100 square feet. The dean reports that Silver is constrained by the current amount of space and would request additional classroom space, since the School’s current classrooms at 1 Washington Square North were not intended for this purpose.

- **Division of Libraries**: Dean Carol Mandel reported that the main drivers of Libraries space, which is limited to Bobst Library, are collections and student/user space. She noted that there is not enough space for either purpose, despite recent efforts to renovate study spaces for undergraduate and graduate students, and to move
materials to off-site locations for storage. As part of the Division’s renovation work, a set of principles for renovating space to serve as study space has emerged, which has been shared with members of the University administration. Looking ahead, the Division of Libraries is interested in the creation and labeling of study space outside of Bobst Library, and would be willing to discuss mutually-beneficial partnerships with schools and other entities to create such satellite study spaces that could also accommodate libraries instruction.

4. Consultation with the community

The Working Group decided to hold three town hall meetings—one for the work of each subcommittee—to engage with members of the entire NYU Community. The meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Space Subcommittee: Wednesday, March 27, 12:00 -2:00 PM, Kimmel Center, Rosenthal Pavilion (10th Floor)
- Finance Subcommittee: Thursday, March 28, 12:00 – 2:00 PM, Kimmel Center, Rm. 914 (9th Floor)
- Quality of Life Subcommittee: TBD, early April

A subset of members from each subcommittee will attend each town hall meeting, respectively. During the meetings, Working Group Chair Ted Magder will moderate the discussion. The Working Group realizes that not all attendees may be able to come to the particular Town Hall at which the issues in which they have the greatest interest are discussed, and that therefore, other members of the Working Group not on that subcommittee may attend a Town Hall as well.

The Working Group also discussed the circulation of an update message to the entire University Community to clarify the focus on the southern block and to announce the town hall meetings. Members will submit comments on a draft to be circulated.