Meeting Date: November 13, 2013

Members in attendance: Barbara Albrecht, Robert Berne, Corey Blay, Mariam Ehrari, David Engel, Allyson Green, Wen-Jui Han, Ted Magder (chair), Laurence Maslon, Panos Mavromatis, Andrew Schotter, Rosemary Scanlon, Jalal Shatah, Dennis Smith, Matthew Stanley, David Vintinner, Lawrence White, Diane Yu

Members unable to attend: Sewin Chan, Angela Kamer, Perri Klass, Anthony Movshon, Anthony Saunders

1. Call to order and logistical announcements

   In addition to the attendees listed above, Michael Patullo attended as staff coordinator for the Working Group.

2. Subcommittee Reports

   Academic and Non-Academic Space
   The Space Subcommittee reported that it is continuing to gather data necessary to make a full and accurate recommendation as to the amount of space needed in specific sub-categories of academic space. The group reported that it is also in the process of gathering further information regarding classroom space and scheduling, and hopes to share a more full analysis before the next meeting of the Working Group.

   Finance
   The Finance Subcommittee reported corresponding with Executive Vice President Martin Dorph regarding the finance section of the Interim Report. Dorph indicated that the data presented therein were accurate, based on his extensive knowledge of and responsibility for the University’s finances. He indicated that he will provide updated information with respect to the financial plan and always be available to the Working Group for future queries.

   Quality of Life/Stewardship
   The Quality of Life/Stewardship Subcommittee noted that it had recently met with members of the executive committee of the Silver Towers Tenants Association (STTA). Issues that were discussed included: alternative options for window replacement/sound
mitigation and the corresponding approval process with the Landmarks Preservation Commission; the potential effects of a student residence hall on the South Block on the quality of life of current residents; the provisions for a gymnasium/fitness facility during construction; and the pending renovation of the so-called Rocketship Park and alternative playground sites used by UPNS. The Subcommittee reported that the STTA had a stronger negative reaction to students as residents of the South Block than to their presence there for purely academic purposes. Members of the Subcommittee also met with the Washington Square Village Tenants Association, which requested a community space in one of the buildings.

In addition, the Quality of Life/Stewardship Subcommittee reported engaging in a conversation with Marty Dorph regarding the commercial space on LaGuardia Place. Dorph indicated that the University may consider tenanting the vacant storefronts there itself, including placing a branch of campus dining services or perhaps a Steinhardt technology lab in the vacant space.

The Subcommittee plans a meeting regarding the cogeneration plant and also expressed the need to have a final meeting with the leadership of the Division of Operations to resolve some open questions.

3. **Advisory Committee**

The Working Group revisited the recommendation for the creation of an advisory committee to provide guidance on Core Project construction, which was noted in the Working Group’s Interim Report, in an effort to further specify and operationalize this component in the final report. Members discussed various forms that such a group could take, including developing a formal reporting relationship to the University administration and/or the University Senate, its membership, its charge, and the duration of its work.

The Working Group also considered that there might be a need for separate groups—one to advise the University and hear from stakeholders during the construction period, another to address and provide guidance on stewardship issues more broadly and in perpetuity, and another to assess the University’s overall financial plan on a regular basis. Some members encouraged the Working Group to think about ways in which the existing University governance structure could contribute to these efforts; other members were sensitive to the creation of excessive numbers of committees, which can be burdensome to members. Members discussed various specific proposals on this subject and emphasized the need for any groups to be both inclusive and representative.

4. **Student Housing**

Chair Ted Magder provided an overview of his recent presentation at the University Senate Meeting on November 7, 2013. The Working Group discussed the current inventory of University housing in both owned and leased space. It was emphasized that, from a financial
perspective, building on NYU-owned land is more cost effective than leasing over a 30-year time horizon. It was also reiterated that some residence halls—especially the 3rd Avenue North dormitory, which currently houses first-year students, and the Lafayette Street dormitory—are ill-suited for freshman housing because of their apartment-style configuration and/or condition.

Some members discussed the quality of life concerns expressed by faculty who live on the superblocks in relation to the inclusion of student housing in a new building. Others noted that the need for student housing on the South Block extends beyond a matter of mere convenience and could improve academic and social outcomes for students. The Working Group agreed to consider a series of options from the Space Subcommittee as well as hear a presentation from Tom Ellett, Senior Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, at its next meeting.