


# STUDENT CENTER PROPOSAL

***THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY***

***STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION***

**Updated September 2018**

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## Introduction

This document is a formal proposal for the construction of a student center at the Johns Hopkins University. Written by the Student Government Association, it delineates the history of student gathering spaces at Hopkins, discusses contemporary efforts to build a student center, notes partners and collaborators in such efforts, and makes a multifaceted case for the construction of a student center within the next half-decade.

Upon completion, this proposal shall be delivered to the following individuals, offices, departments and/or institutions for the following respective purposes:

- **To the Office of the President and Office of the Provost**, in order to emphasize the need to prioritize the construction of a student center as a high priority short- and long-term action item;
- **To the Board of Trustees**, in order to underscore the short- and long-term benefits of constructing a student center;
- **To the Alumni Association**, in order to gain their support and aid in rallying alumni to the effort of constructing a student center;
- **To the Parents' Council**, in order to gain their support and aid in rallying parents to the effort of constructing a student center; and
- **To the Parents' Fund**, in order to gain their support and aid in sparking fundraising efforts for the construction of a student center;
- **To all student groups**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center;
- **To the Office of Admissions**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis that a student center would improve Hopkins' admissions efforts;
- **To the Office of Academic Support**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential academic improvement in the student body;
- **To the Homewood Academic Council**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential academic improvement in the student body;
- **To the Faculty Assembly and Hopkins chapter of the AAUP**, in order to gain their respective support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential academic improvement in the student body and improved faculty-student interaction;
- **To the Office of the Dean of Student Life (DOSL) and Homewood Student Affairs (HSA)**, in order to gain their respective support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential benefits to student life in the construction of a student center;

- **To the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement (SLI)**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential benefits to student life in the construction of a student center;
- **To the Counseling Center**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential improvement for student health and mental health;
- **To Student Health and Wellness (SHW)**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential improvement for student health and mental health;
- **To the Office of Multicultural Affairs**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential improvement in student culture, campus climate, and diversity and inclusion;
- **To the Homewood Council on Inclusive Excellence (HCIE)**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential improvement in student culture, campus climate, and diversity and inclusion;
- **To the Office of LGBTQ Life**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential improvement in support for LGBTQ students;
- **To the Center for Educational Resources (CER)**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential gains in student learning; and
- **To the Digital Media Center (DMC)**, in order to gain their support and aid in the effort to build a student center, on the basis of potential opportunities for growth in student learning.

Should any entity aforementioned or any JHU-affiliated entity in possession of this document wish to state their support, they may contact the SGA project members listed below, after which they will be added to Section 5, *Partners and Collaborators*. In addition, such entities may send written memos of support, which shall be attached to this document as addenda.

## SGA Project Members

Current SGA Members:

- AJ Tsang, Executive Vice President *(project lead)*
  - atsang4@jhu.edu
- Sam Schatmeyer, 2021 Class President & Co-Chair of the Student Services Committee *(project lead)*
  - sschatm1@jhu.edu
- Coco Cai, 2021 Class Senator & Co-Chair of the Student Services Committee
  - ycai20@jhu.edu
- Sam Mollin, 2021 Class Senator & Member of the Student Services Committee
  - smollin1@jhu.edu
- Mo Elgendi, 2021 Class Senator & Member of the Student Services Committee
- Aspen Williams, Executive Secretary
  - awill230@jhu.edu

SGA Alumni:

- Liam Haviv, Former 2017 Class Senator
  - liam18haviv@jhu.edu
- Michael Korn, Former 2017 Class Senator
  - korn.m94@gmail.com

## Partners & Collaborators

At this time, the following entities have declared or indicated support for the construction of a student center:

- Spring Fair
- Office of the Dean of Student Life
- Office of Student Leadership and Involvement (SLI)
- Student Experience Subcommittee of the Second Commission on Undergraduate Education (CUE2)

## Project History

Since the inception of the Homewood campus over a century ago, student life has been a core tenet of the Hopkins experience. From the Beach to the FFC, students have long relied on communal gathering spaces to enrich and further their time at Hopkins. In the 1920s, the Student Council (the previous incarnation of the SGA) possessed meeting spaces on the third floor of the Merrick Barn. In the 1960s, Levering Hall was a center of student engagement, and the origin point of several student demonstrations. Indeed, the 1980s saw the space used - alongside the green area between Levering and Garland - as a venue for valiant anti-apartheid protests.

As the campus has expanded, so too has the raw number of spaces available for student use. In the 1950s, the construction of the Milton S. Eisenhower Library (MSE) allowed students to study and learn together. In the 1980s and 1990s, renovations to Wolman and McCoy Halls provided students more common spaces, as did the construction of the Recreation Center. In the 2000s, the construction of Charles Commons and the Mattin Center furnished students with a full-fledged conference center and arts and dance studios, respectively. In the 2010s, the renovation of Gilman Hall and the construction of Brody Learning Commons (BLC) furnished students with thousands of square feet of collaborative study spaces. Finally, in the last few years, the addition of Nine East 33rd, the Lab and commercial developments along the Saint Paul Street corridor have opened new, off-campus locales for student life.

Though all these developments have been positive individually, they have been collectively counterbalanced by unforeseen drawbacks. For example, expanding office space needs have resulted in the loss of several parts of Levering Hall. Furthermore, many developments have focused on the academic or bodily functionality of students rather than the student body's overall well-being. The construction of the MSE and BLC and renovation of Gilman merely provided more study space; the renovation of Wolman, McCoy and the construction of Charles Commons merely added residential areas; and the Saint Paul Corridor and the Lab are social but distant from campus (and the latter is of small square footage). Even the Recreation Center is located in a relatively isolated sector of campus.

These issues can be summarized in the idea that <u>while each space may be useful on its own, few spaces are witness to the intersection of all or multiple student needs, whether academic or social</u>. As a result, there is no central gathering space for students to congregate. Students often remark that "the library *is* the student center," an appalling statement in light of recent findings on student stress by the University-wide Mental Health Task Force.

Previous generations of SGA members have attempted to ameliorate the situation by calling for the construction of a student center. In spring 2016, members of SGA travelled around the East Coast to identify crucial elements of a student center as embodied in peer institutions. Institutions visited include American University, George Washington University, Georgetown

University, and the University of Arizona. Concurrently, the University conducted preliminary financial and logistical studies. These studies indicated that a student center would require approximately $120 million to build and that the current location of Mattin Center and Whitehead Hall would be the ideal venue, given student traffic patterns.

The concept of a student center has also been noted by University task forces and commissions created in the last two years. In its final report, one of the Mental Health Task Force's recommendations was to build a "central student gathering space" for the Homewood campus and other campuses. In late 2017, the Second Commission on Undergraduate Education (CUE2) Student Experience Subcommittee reached out to the SGA to indicate its interest in pushing for the construction of a student center as well.

After a brief interregnum in work on the student center initiative in the 16-17 academic year, the SGA restarted the initiative in fall 2017, reaching out to various campus partners and entities. The SGA delineated an action plan for rallying community support for a student center, including the creation of this formal proposal, and delegated implementation of the initiative to the Student Services Committee, chaired by Senator Olivia Cigarroa; Executive Vice President AJ Tsang; and Class of 2021 President Sam Schatmeyer. The SGA even held a public discussion on the construction of a student center at its annual Fall Forum in November 2017.

## Project Activities

With the 2020s decade in sight, the Student Center Initiative seeks to attain a "greenlight" for construction of a student center from President Daniels by the end of the 2017-2018 academic year. Following this, the initiative aims to work with relevant JHU offices and departments to begin a fundraising campaign for the student center that is complete no later than December 31st, 2020. Upon the conclusion of the fundraising campaign, the initiative aims to have the University break ground on the construction of a student center by no later than December 31st, 2022.

Before the end of the 2018 calendar year, the SGA plans to conduct the following activities, in order to raise public awareness of the student center initiative:

- Resolution (February 2018)
    - In February 2018, the SGA shall compose and pass a resolution calling for the construction of a student center.
- News-Letter Opinion Piece (March 2018)
    - Members of the SGA shall compose and submit an opinion piece to the News-Letter imploring the University to construct a student center.
- Support Rally (2018-2019)
    - The SGA shall hold a peaceful demonstration to illustrate the tangible and emotional impact of the construction of a student center. One of these peaceful demonstrations may take the form of a brick fundraiser-rally (though this is a still evolving concept). First, from late February 2018, the SGA would host a fundraiser where students can purchase one or more environmentally sustainable bricks, with the option to engrave said brick(s) with their name. If engraving is not an option, students would be able to sign bricks instead. In early March 2018, these bricks would be ordered in bulk and delivered to the SGA. The bricks would then be temporarily arranged into the shape of a miniature student center. The temporary brick structure would be the centerpiece of a rally where students march from the Athletic Center, across the Freshman Quad, Gilman Quad and the Wyman Quad, to Garland Hall (or the location of the March 2018 Board of Trustees meeting). At Garland Hall, the SGA, the administration (and Board of Trustees, if amenable) would hold a positive and productive discussion on what a student center should look like.
        - Upon the conclusion of the event, the bricks would be stored in a clean and dry space. When the construction of a student center begins, the bricks would form part of the indoor entryway to the student center.
- Video Montage (2018-2019):
    - The SGA shall create a video montage, similar to Cornell University's 150th Anniversary video, Glorious to View (link), that calls for a student center by

highlighting the undergraduate student body, as well as the graduate students, faculty and staff that support them.

- Referendum (Late April 2018):
    - The SGA shall hold a referendum on the construction of a student center in concurrence with the 2018 SGA elections, and alongside an omnibus referendum on other amendments to the SGA Constitution. In accordance with the SGA Constitution, the referendum outcome shall be binding or non-binding to the SGA depending on voter turnout. If voter turnout amounts to at least ⅓ of the student body, the referendum result shall be binding. The term "binding" indicates that the SGA must consider the referendum's result as the opinion of the student body, regardless of personal beliefs.
- Time Capsule (2019)
    - The SGA aims to build a time capsule of student memories and mementos from the 17-18 academic year and store them in a time capsule that shall be opened on the day that a student center is eventually opened. Alternatively, for a long-term effect, the time capsule may simply be stored inside the student center as a hallmark monument, scheduled to be opened by students decades after the student center's opening.
- Sculpture (2019)
    - In collaboration with the Baltimore Museum of Art and Johns Hopkins, alumnus and former SGA Senator Michael Korn (AS '17), the SGA shall work to design and install a sculpture in the Mattin Center (the likely location of a new student center) that shall remain in place through the construction of a student center, thereby symbolizing the physical and ethereal continuity between the late Mattin Center and new student center.

## Existing JHU Services

On-campus JHU student amenities are distributed across Levering Hall, the Mattin Center and residential halls. The following list summarizes said distribution. Spaces available solely to the residents of each respective building (such as a residential hall) are excluded from this list.

- Levering Hall
    - Dining services (pizza, salads, soups, sushi and burgers)
    - One cafe
    - One lounge
    - One meeting hall
    - One meeting room
    - One theater (Arellano Theater)
    - One performance/recreation space (Glass Pavilion)
- Mattin Center
    - Office of the Dean of Student Life
    - Office of Student Leadership and Involvement
    - Digital Media Center
    - Dance Studios
    - Homewood Arts Programs
    - Music rooms
- FFC (Fresh Food Cafe)
    - Dining hall
- Homewood Residential Apartments
    - FedEx
    - The Lab (student lounge)
- Charles Commons Residential Hall
    - JHU Federal Credit Union
    - Meeting & banquet spaces
    - Insomnia Cookies
    - Barnes and Nobles (bookstore)
    - Mailroom (incoming mail)
- Wolman Residential Hall
    - Theater (seats 50)
    - Mailroom (incoming and outgoing mail)
- McCoy Residential Hall
    - Multipurpose room
    - Campus radio station (WJHU)

On this page, we present a map that identifies the locations of these buildings, as well as average travel times between them.

## Call for a Construction of a Student Center

On the basis of the following benefits and analyses, the SGA formally calls for the construction of a student center.

Health Benefits

In this section, we consider both the physical and mental health benefits of constructing a student center. We begin with a consideration of the status quo of health in the undergraduate student body. The health of the undergraduate student body is currently served by the following entities on campus: the Student Health and Wellness Center, the Center for Health Education and Wellness (CHEW), the Athletics and Recreation Center, and the Counseling Center. We examine quantitative data on physical health from the Athletics and Recreation Center, and quantitative data on mental health from the Counseling Center and the Mental Health Task Force.

*Physical Health*

In its 2015-2016 annual report, the Recreation Center reported nearly 175,000 total visits from Homewood undergraduates, a statistic which represents 48% of the Recreation Center's student visits. 747 students participated in group exercise, 512 in personal training, 558 in experiential or outdoor education, and 1,987 in intramural sports.

Since the appointment of new director Alanna Shanahan, the Recreation Center has also engaged in an increasing number of outreach activities, and the SGA wholeheartedly applauds the Recreation Center for these developments and its status as a central location for physical health on campus. However, on a structural note, the SGA observes that the Recreation Center is proximate to only three residential halls (AMR I, II and III) and two major off-campus housing options (The Academy and University One). As such, the SGA asserts that the construction of a student center would allow for the creation of a satellite athletics and recreation facility to improve physical health for students more proximate to the southern side of campus, where five residential halls (Wolman, McCoy, Charles Commons, Bradford and Homewood) and four major off-campus housing options (The Charles, the Blackstone, Nine East 33rd, and Wyman Towers) are located.

*Mental Health*

In its 2016-2017 annual report, the Counseling Center noted that it furnished 20,665 hours of service across the academic year. Of these over 20,000 hours, the Counseling Center saw 1,404 students in individual counseling sessions (with an average of 5.85 sessions per student). According to the report, this was a 48% increase from the 2015-2016 academic year. In addition, the Counseling Center served 130 students in group counseling, 380 students in psychiatric

services, 8 students per week on their daily-hours crisis helpline, 218 students total on their after-hours crisis helpline, and 24 calls total on their sexual assault helpline. Of the aforementioned individual counseling session students, the Counseling Center observed 278 incidences of suicidal intent at intake (20% of the total number of students). Additionally, the Counseling Center recommended 64 leaves of absence, a decrease of 90 from 2015-2016 year, and made 240 referrals to outside providers. Lastly, in terms of outreach, the Counseling Center engaged in 151 outreach programs that successfully reached over 3,400 students. These programs included QPR training, RA training, and mindfulness training.

In May 2017, the Mental Health Task Force also made key recommendations to improve mental health, one of which recognized that students have *"called for a central location on campus to gather socially in a non-academic or study environment, similar to student union models at other universities." (Recommendations Section 1).* This recommendation derived from various responses to its 2016 school-wide survey. The Task Force had specifically found that: *"...several students indicated a desire for more opportunities to interact within the student community that were not directly tied to academics or parties centered around drinking alcohol."* One student anonymously remarked to them that to truly improve mental health, there must be an *"emphasis on community — it would be really wonderful to have a student center where we could hang out...a central place for students to just go and relax and decompress...not the library."*

In light of the aforementioned data, mental health is a clear and serious concern among the undergraduate student body, let alone the student body across all Johns Hopkins campuses. While services do exist to address mental health needs, and policy recommendations from the Mental Health Task Force to address these needs are soon to be implemented, the need for a student center is apparent.

First, on a physical basis, a student center could allow for the construction of a Counseling Center satellite office more proximate to the center of campus. At present, the Counseling Center is located in the Homewood Apartments Building, nearly ten minutes away from the center of campus (the MSE-Brody complex) by foot. The addition of an embedded counseling office in a new student center could increase the accessibility of counseling services by reducing travel time. Interestingly, an embedded counseling office could also aid in the de-stigmatization of counseling services by normalizing student usage of such services.

Second, a student center could ameliorate the aforementioned status quo of mental health by providing a clear location for student relaxation and community that not only centralizes existing student amenities, but goes beyond them. By combining such resources as a theater, dining hall, performance hall, mailroom, radio station, dance studio, Digital Media Center, career and academic advising offices, meeting and banquet spaces, and student offices into one space, a student center could alleviate mental health strains across all of Homewood.

Third, a student center could improve student mental health by providing safe, University-sanctioned alternatives to certain (and for brevity, unspecified) off-campus entertainment options. While extensive research into alcohol consumption rates was not conducted for this proposal, the SGA notes that non-alcoholic entertainment options, such as those offered by RAs, student organizations, and the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement have proved quite fruitful for community building. As a student center would provide even more space for such community building.

Academic Benefits

In this section, we consider the academic benefits of constructing a student center. We begin with a consideration of the status quo of academics at Hopkins. At present, there are 5,465 undergraduates on the Homewood campus (Office of the Registrar, 2017), spread across 52 undergraduate majors and 46 undergraduate minors, with a student-faculty ratio of 10 to 1 (Office of Admissions, 2016).

However, students face great difficulty with academics at Hopkins. Though not insurmountable, academics — coupled with national trends in the culture of academia — provoke clear stressors in students. For example, as mentioned above, the Mental Health Task Force found that 30% of undergraduates engage in "all-nighters." This is likely due to the fact that the MSE-Brody complex is open twenty-four hours a day. In addition, the Task Force also found that almost ninety percent of students consider their academic course load and post-Hopkins career as major stressors in their lives. On a qualitative basis, students have also denoted stresses with the course retake policy (requiring a C+ or below for retakes), with the loss of covered grades, with the intensity of pre-medical coursework and "weed-out" courses (such as Organic Chemistry), with the imbalance between the sciences and humanities, and more.

Given the status quo, we assert that the construction of a student center would address these issues by separating academics from non-academics, or at least mitigating an unhealthy overlap of academics into student health. For instance, the existence of a student center could allow the MSE-Brody complex to be closed at an earlier hour, forcing students to go home and rest.
In regards to facilities, a student center could allow for the rededication of space in MSE and Brody, especially as the University considers renovations of C- and D-level in the MSE Library.

In regards to the academic community, the construction of a student center could add more spaces for faculty-student interaction. For example, the addition of a dedicated "Faculty-Student Interaction Lounge" could provide the Faculty-Student Interaction (FSI) program a venue for its programming. Writ large, a student center could give students and faculty a unique opportunity to get to know each other, or even work together on initiatives, outside the classroom. Though

entities such as the SGA, the GRO and the Faculty Assembly have begun to pioneer such collaboration, a student center could furnish a concrete platform for future endeavors.

Lastly, in addition to faculty-student interaction, a student center could aid in helping students in their post-Hopkins career searches. For example, moving the Career Center to a student center could provide a physically central venue for students to seek out career resources and participate in career networking events.

Cultural and Interdivisional Benefits

On a cultural level, the construction of a student center offers an unparalleled opportunity to improve diversity and inclusion on campus and address crucial concerns raised in the 2016 Roadmap to Diversity. In particular for students, the Roadmap raises issues about undergraduate student recruitment, undergraduate student success and retention, undergraduate education and training initiatives, building a pipeline between undergraduate and graduate programs, and engaging with Baltimore.

In regards to undergraduate student recruitment, a student center would enhance the image of Hopkins to prospective students from all backgrounds. Indeed, a student center would permit Hopkins to more aptly compete with its peer institutions in admissions. As the Peer Institutions Analysis below will illustrate, Johns Hopkins is one of only three COFHE institutions that lacks a student center (and Hopkins is far larger in size and scope than the other two COFHE institutions that lack a student center). Thus, a student center would allow Hopkins to compete with other institutions, raise application rates, and increase admitted student yield.

In regards to undergraduate student success and retention, a student center could improve on the aforementioned health and academic status quos to ensure that students not only stay at Hopkins, but enjoy their time at Hopkins. This is especially critical as Hopkins focuses on improving the health and academic outcomes of students from disadvantaged and underrepresented backgrounds. By extension, a student center could also ameliorate the pipeline between undergraduate and graduate programs, especially those graduate programs in those fields, such as engineering, with historically low representation from under-represented minority communities.

On a facilities level, a student center could provide a central location for improving undergraduate understanding of diversity and inclusion, thereby aiding the Roadmap in ameliorating undergraduate education and training. Furthermore, the construction of a student center could allow for the expansion of the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and the events it hosts.

On a programming level, the addition of a student center could also allow for the dozens of annual cultural festivals and annual dance performances to be held in one central location, proximate to not only Shriver Hall but also residence halls.

Above all, a student center could aid not only undergraduates, but a cross-section of the JHU community, including staff and faculty constituencies. For example, a student center could provide a platform for interdivisional collaboration between students and other constituencies on issues in the civic sphere, much like the nascent Agora Institute.

Architectural and Facilities Benefits

In the 2008 Campus Master Plan, the Office of Facilities and Real Estate identified several areas of potential growth on the Homewood campus. First, the need for a new first-year dormitory was identified. This dormitory would be built on the current location of the baseball fields, which would then be moved to another location. Second, the need for a new academic quad was identified. The new quad would be built at the current location of the Wyman Park Building. Moreover, the need for new research space was identified. The new research space would be located on the north side of campus, beyond the recreation center.

Perhaps the most interesting facet of the 2008 Campus Master Plan, however, is the recognition of the need to expand student services space in the area of Levering Hall. The Campus Master Plan specifically delineates the need to expand or replace Levering Hall with a new and expanded student-centric facility. In the upcoming iteration of its Campus Master Plan, this proposal encourages the Office of Facilities and Real Estate to retain the expansion plans for Levering Hall and also add the construction of a student center where the Mattin Center is today.

Altogether, the SGA asserts that doing so would yield architectural and facilities benefits for the University. Indeed, the expansion of all facilities could help avoid academic and program-siloing, as well as allow the University to engage in a wholesale redistribution of existing offices and services to make them more efficient.

Once a student center is placed under construction, the University could also involve the greater Baltimore community in its construction, such that the very architectural history of the student center would inspire students to become more involved in the local community. To this end, the student center could include artistic and humanistic contributions from around the city, with aid from MICA and other institutions around the city that specialize in such matters.

Financial Analysis

The student center, as estimated in 2015, is expected to cost in $120 million in initial construction costs. Recognizing that a major donor would be needed to cover at least 50% of

these costs, the SGA has researched potential alumni who, based on their past contributions to Hopkins student affairs or their stature in the national or international community, could be contacted as potential donors:

- Insert researched donor list here. Do not include major donors in the past two years such as Michael Bloomberg or Bill MIller.

A student center, in improving the student experience, could also improve rates of alumni giving. Anecdotally, it is commonly known that students react hesitantly to donating as alumni. A student center would provide a powerful rallying point to increase alumni donations.

Peer Institutions Analysis

The Johns Hopkins University is a member of the following pan-collegiate organizations: the AAU, the URA, the NAICU, the ORAU, and most visibly, the COFHE (The Consortium on Financing Higher Education). This analysis focuses on peer institutions in COFHE, the entity against which most best practices analyses compare.

**Summary Table of COFHE Institutions and Student Center or Student Union Development:**

| **Institution** | **Student Center or Student Union?** | **Amenities** |
|---|---|---|
| Amherst College | **Yes**, the Keefe Campus Center | • Multicultural Resource Center<br>• Queer Resource Center<br>• Women's and Gender Center<br>• Center for Community Engagement<br>• Schwemm's Coffeehouse<br>• Movie Theater (with regularly scheduled screenings every other Friday and Saturday night)<br>• Collection of board games<br>• Lounges to study and gather with friends<br>• Campus radio station (WAMH)<br>• Campus post office |
| Barnard College | **Yes**, the Diana Center | • Cafe<br>• Theatre<br>• Architecture studio<br>• The "Event Oval" (auditorium) |
| Bowdoin College | **None** at time of writing. | N/A |

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| Brown University | **Yes**, the Stephen Robert '62 Campus Center | • Open to "all constituencies" (faculty, undergraduates, graduates, staff, medical students, alumni)<br>• Meeting spaces<br>• Lounges<br>• Multi-purpose rooms<br>• Piano room<br>• Arcade<br>• Art gallery<br>• Cafe |
| Bryn Mawr College | **Yes**, the Bryn Mawr/Marie Salant Neuberger Centennial Campus Center | • Bookstore<br>• Cafe<br>• Conference services |
| California Institute of Technology (CalTech) | **Yes**, the Winnett Center (23,068 sq. ft.). Currently building a new student center, the Hameetman Center. | Winnett Center:<br>• Bookstore<br>• Ticket office<br>• Recording studio<br><br>Hameetman Center:<br>• Lounge<br>• Common areas<br>• Music rehearsal room<br>• Conference rooms<br>• MPR<br>• Recording studio<br>• Club rooms<br>• Storage<br>• Outdoor space<br><br>In addition, the walls of the Winnett Center contain bricks engraved with the names of students who donated $1 to purchase said bricks. Those bricks will be moved into the new Hameetman Center. |
| Carleton College | **Yes**, the Sayles Hill Campus Center | • Post office<br>• Career center<br>• Bookstore<br>• Snack bar<br>• TV lounge<br>• Campus radio station (KRLX) |
| Columbia | **Yes**, Lerner Hall | • Technology lounge |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| University | (additional information) (8 floors) | • Computer lab<br>• Berick Center for Student Advising<br>• Counseling and Psychological Services<br>• Double Discovery Center<br>• Family Engagement and Special Programs<br>• Lockers<br>• Multicultural Affairs<br>• Naval Reserve Office Training Corps Program<br>• Residential Life<br>• Food Bank<br>• Sexual Violence Response<br>• University Chaplain<br>• University Event Management<br>• Auditorium |
| Cornell University | **Yes**, the Willard Straight Hall Student Union (103,000 sq. ft. across 6 floors) | • ATM Machines<br>• Computer lab<br>• Cornell Cinema<br>• Fraternities, Sororities and Independent Living<br>• Off-Campus Housing<br>• Student Activities<br>• Student Support<br>• 3 meeting room lofts<br>• Administrative offices for the Dean of Students<br>• Art Gallery<br>• Dining Facilities (Ivy Room, Okenshields)<br>• International Lounge<br>• Memorial Room<br>• Music/TV Room<br>• North Room (dance studio)<br>• Browsing Library<br>• Lobby Information Desk<br>• Mail Room Services<br>• Ticket Sales |
| Dartmouth College | **Yes**, the Collis Center for Student Involvement | • Cafe<br>• Meeting and Event Spaces<br>• Administrative Offices<br>  ○ Student Life<br>  ○ Greek Life<br>  ○ Office of Pluralism and Leadership<br>  ○ Student Involvement<br>• Student Organizations Suites |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | ○ Student Assembly<br>○ Collis Governing Board<br>○ Greek Leadership Office<br>○ Programming Board<br>○ The Aegis<br>● 9 lounges<br>● 7 meeting rooms<br>● 2 large event spaces<br>● Email stations<br>● Green print stations |
| Duke University | **Yes**, the Bryan Center | ● Office of the Vice President of Student Affairs<br>● Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity<br>● Duke University Stores<br>● Post Office<br>● Duke Barbers<br>● Center for Multicultural Affairs<br>● University Center Activities & Events<br>● Fraternity and Sorority Life<br>● DIDA<br>● DUU<br>● BSA<br>● Launch<br>● Source<br>● McDonalds<br>● The Loop<br>● The Landing<br>● Red Mango<br>● Griffith Film Theater<br>● Schaefer Theater<br>● Reynolds Theater<br>● Meeting and event spaces |
| Georgetown University | **Yes**, the Healey Family Center and the Leavy Center | Healey Family Center:<br>● Great Room (open space with fireplace hearth, couches, living green wall, and study tables)<br>● Terrace (with fire pits and seating over the Potomac River)<br>● Social Room (63’ by 40’ meeting space)<br>● Herman Room (30’ by 30’ meeting space)<br>● TV Lounge (with cable)<br>● Dance Studios (with wooden and marley floors)<br>● Study space (with TV screens and writable |

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| | | glass)<br>● Bulldog Tavern (Full-service campus restaurant and bar by Aramark)<br>● The Hilltoss (Salads and smoothies)<br>● Film Screening Room<br>● Music Practice Rooms<br>● Small Meeting Rooms (with board room seating and TV monitor)<br><br>Leavy Center:<br>● Program Room<br>● Hoya Food Court<br>● PNC Bank<br>● Restaurants<br>● The Esplanade<br>● Bulldog Alley<br>● Sellinger Lounge<br>● Uncommon Grounds<br>● Campus Bookstore<br>● Vital Vittles |
| Harvard University | **Yes**, the Richard A. and Susan F. Smith Campus Center (to be opened in 2018) | ● Flexible indoor and outdoor gathering spaces, meeting and event spaces, lounge and study areas<br>● Food options<br>● Space for exhibitions, events and performances |
| The Johns Hopkins University | **No single, comprehensive student center** at time of writing. | N/A |
| Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) | **Yes**, the Stratton Student Center | ● Places to gather, study, dine, do errands, relax<br>● 40+ student offices and lounges<br>● Seven dining venues<br>● Reading room with group study spaces<br>● Campus' largest "Athena Cluster"<br>● Art gallery<br>● MIT Coop bookstore<br>● Dry cleaner<br>● Two hairdressers<br>● Optical shop<br>● Two banks<br>● One supermarket |

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| | | • Caffeine outlets<br>• Post office<br>• Division of Student Life offices |
| Middlebury College | **Yes**, the McCullough Student Center | • Dining<br>  ○ The Grille<br>  ○ Crossroads<br>  ○ Sushi With Gusto<br>  ○ Midd-Express (convenience store))<br>• Services<br>  ○ Tickets and Information Desk<br>  ○ Student Mail Room<br>  ○ ATM and Laundry Card Machines<br>  ○ Student Art Space<br>• Meeting Rooms<br>  ○ Mitchell Green Lounge<br>  ○ The Crest Room<br>  ○ The Grille Conference Room<br>• Event Spaces<br>  ○ Wilson Hall<br>  ○ Crossroads Stage<br>• Art Galleries<br>  ○ The Center Gallery<br>  ○ The Lower Gallery<br>• Offices<br>  ○ Office of the Dean of the Students<br>  ○ Student Activities<br>  ○ Housing<br>  ○ Middlebury College Activities Board<br>  ○ Student Government Association |
| Mount Holyoke College | **Yes**, the Blanchard Community Center (under construction) | *Under construction.* |
| Northwestern University | **Yes**, the Norris University Center | • Art studios<br>• Darkrooms<br>• Game room<br>• Meditation/prayer room<br>• Mini Courses<br>• Technical Services<br>• Norris Outdoors<br>• Wildcard Office<br>• Dining (Cat Shack Grill, International Dish, NU Sushi, Soup and Salad, Subway) |

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| | | • Dunkin' Donuts<br>• Frontera Fresco<br>• Galleria<br>• Norris Bookstore<br>• Norris Tech Center (Apple Authorized Campus Store)<br>• Northwestern Catering<br>• NUIT Service Point<br>• Paws 'n' Go C-Store<br>• US Bank<br>• Cashier's Office<br>• Dittmar Memorial Gallery<br>• Student Organization Finance Office (SOFO)<br>• Starbucks<br>• Campus Life<br>  ○ Fraternity & Sorority Life<br>  ○ Leadership & Community Engagement<br>  ○ Student Organizations & Activities<br>• Gender & Sexuality Resource Center (GSRC)<br>• Marketing (Student Affairs Marketing)<br>• Student organization offices<br>• Students Publishing<br>  ○ Daily Northwestern<br>  ○ Syllabus Yearbook<br>• Meeting rooms |
| Oberlin College | **Yes**, Wilder Hall | • Dining Hall<br>• Billiard Room<br>• Bowling Alley<br>• Library<br>• Barbershop<br>• Community meeting rooms<br>• Office space for student organizations<br>• Student lounge<br>• Performance venue<br>• Cafe and market<br>• Multicultural Resource Center<br>• Office of the Dean of Students<br>• Office of Religious and Spiritual Life<br>• Wilder Information Desk<br>• Student Mailroom<br>• Informal dining facilities<br>• Student-run performance and dance venue |

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| Pomona College | **Yes**, the Smith Campus Center | • Student Programs Office<br>• ASPC Office & Senate Operations<br>• Coop Store<br>• Coop Fountain<br>• Radio station (KSPC)<br>• Claremont Ballroom Dance Program<br>• Sagehen Cafe<br>• Meeting rooms for seminars, clubs & study groups<br>• Larger spaces for parties, conferences, etc.<br>• Student Mail Center<br>• Email & printer stations<br>• Bank of America ATM<br>• Asian American Resource Center<br>• Quantitative Skill Center<br>• ASPC Office<br>• Poster Lab<br>• The Writing Center<br>• Transportation Services |
| Princeton University | **Yes**, the Frist Campus Center (additional information) | • Meeting space<br>• Multipurpose room<br>• Art Cafe & TV Lounge<br>• Food Gallery<br>• Study Lounge<br>• Lecture Hall<br>• Film/Performance Theater<br>• McGraw Center for Teaching and Learning<br>• Office of Disability Services<br>• Pace Center for Civic Engagement<br>• Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Center<br>• Student Volunteer Council<br>• Women's Center at Princeton<br>• Recreation and Entertainment:<br>  ○ Film/Performance Theatre<br>  ○ Ticket Office<br>  ○ Lounges<br>  ○ Mazo Family Game Room<br>• Dining and Food<br>  ○ Campus Dining<br>  ○ Catering<br>  ○ Convenience Store<br>  ○ Cafes<br>  ○ Food Gallery<br>• Services |

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| | | ○ Classrooms and lecture halls<br>○ Copy & ATM machines<br>○ Computer Clusters<br>○ Electronic message board<br>○ Enterprise Car Share<br>○ Hydration Station<br>○ Meeting, Conference and Private Dining Facilities<br>○ OIT Solutions Center<br>○ Package Room and Mailboxes<br>○ Value Transaction System (VTS)<br>○ Wireless Services<br>● Student Government<br>○ Undergraduate Student Government (USG)<br>○ Graduate Student Government (GSG) |
| Rice University | **Yes**, the Rice University Student Center | ● Bulletin boards<br>● Copying services<br>● Courtesy phones<br>● Coffeehouse<br>● Dining Services<br>● Mother's Rooms<br>● Phone charging stations<br>● Prayer room<br>● Recycling<br>● Student Organization Storage Lockers<br>● Student Organizations Resource Center and Clubs Office<br>● Student-run businesses<br>● Rental Equipment<br>● Campus store<br>● Study spaces<br>● Vending machines<br>● "Willy's Pub" |
| Smith College | **Yes**, the Smith College Student Center (56,000 sq. ft.) | ● Campus Center Cafe<br>● Goldstein Lounge (includes a Book Nook for borrowing books)<br>● Nolen Art Lounge (venue for creative, innovative and multicultural visual arts)<br>● Office of Student Engagement<br>● Lost and Found<br>● Resource Room<br>● Student Government Association offices |

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| | | • Student Kitchen<br>• Relaxation lounges and atria<br>• ATM<br>• Game Room<br>• Bookshop<br>• Lockers<br>• Mail Services<br>• Payphone<br>• TV Lounge<br>• Vending machines<br>• WOZQ Smith College Radio Station |
| Stanford University | **Yes**, the Tresidder Memorial Union | • Dining (including Subway, Starbucks, and 8 other eateries)<br>• Shopping<br>  ○ Campus Bike Shop<br>  ○ Stanford Store<br>  ○ Tresidder Express<br>• Services<br>  ○ FedEx<br>  ○ Stanford Catering<br>  ○ Stanford Hair<br>• Banking<br>  ○ Bank of America ATM<br>  ○ Stanford Federal Credit Union<br>  ○ Wells Fargo<br>• Administrative Offices<br>  ○ Office for Military-Affiliated Communities<br>  ○ Office of Community Standards<br>  ○ Office of the Vice Provost for Student Affairs<br>  ○ Residential Education<br>  ○ Stanford Ticket Office<br>  ○ Student Services Center<br>  ○ Tresidder Meeting Services |
| Swarthmore College | **None** at time of writing. | N/A |
| Trinity College | **Yes,** Mather Hall | • Welcome Desk for dissemination of campus general information (events, athletics, etc)<br>• The Corner Pocket (billiards and foosball tables with organized tournaments)<br>• Food Vendors and Vending Machines<br>• The Underground Coffee House (student run |

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| | | venue, open daily, hosts live music)<br>● Bishop's Corner Lounge Space |
| University of Chicago | **Yes,** the Reynolds Club | ● Variety of event spaces and meeting rooms to be reserved or for open use<br>● Hutchinson commons food center, including two coffee shops, one that is student run<br>● WHPK radio station<br>● Computer kiosks<br>● Storage Spaces<br>● Center for Leadership and Involvement, Student Activity Center |
| University of Pennsylvania | **Yes,** Houston Hall | ● 16 lounges and meeting rooms<br>● Copy Services<br>● Paris Cafe Creperie<br>● Houston Market Dining Hall |
| University of Rochester | **Yes,** the Wilson Commons | ● 5 Floors of Amenities<br>● The Pit dining hall<br>● Yearbook, Logos, Mock Trial, and Greek Life Offices<br>● Graphic Arts Office<br>● Several Floors of Lounges<br>● Common Market<br>● Harnett Art Gallery<br>● Center for Conflict Management<br>● Starbucks<br>● Dining Services Offices<br>● Parent and Family Relations |
| Vanderbilt University | **Yes,** the Sarrat Student Center | ● Overcup Oakpub<br>● Last Drop Coffee Shop<br>● Rand Dining Center<br>● Jr Varsity Market<br>● Baseball Glove Lounge<br>● 3U Game Lounge<br>● Sarrat Art Studio and Gallery<br>● Sarrat Lounge<br>● VU Dance Center |
| Washington University in St. Louis | **Yes,** the Danforth University Center | ● Several open student lounges and meeting rooms, including the Fun Room and the Formal Lounge<br>● Several dining options |

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| | | • Career Center<br>• Student Involvement and Leadership |
| Wellesley College | **Yes,** the Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center | • Bookstore<br>• Dining Area<br>• Cafe with live music<br>• Meeting Rooms<br>• Green Spaces within the space |
| Wesleyan University | **Yes,** the Usdan Center | • Cafe Servery<br>• Administrative Offices<br>• Open Lounge<br>• Reservable Meeting Rooms<br>• Dining Hall<br>• Balcony Seating Area<br>• Kitchen and Dining Room |
| Williams College | **Yes,** the Paresky Center | • Campus Living Room: bright, high ceiling space<br>• Four Dining Options<br>• Mailroom<br>• Office of the Newspaper, Family Record Office, Office of Student Life<br>• Health Center<br>• Reading Room<br>• Luetkemeyer Lounge with seating, billiards, ping pong, and a large TV<br>• 150 seat auditorium |
| Yale University | **Yes,** the Stephen A. Schwarzman Center | • Rehearsal Room<br>• Art Room<br>• Bistro<br>• Kitchen<br>• Servery<br>• Meeting Rooms<br>• Commons and Dining Hall |

## Call for Next Steps, Support and Aid

Given the aforementioned information, we formally ask for your support and aid in the effort to construct a student center on the Homewood campus.

Based on our discussions with various campus entities, we see three ways forward on the construction of a student center. In order of preference, we propose the following:

1. **Construct a new student center**.
2. **Renovate and expand Levering Hall** to the size and function of peer institutions' student centers, potentially making use of the hill and parking space between Hodson and Levering Hall.
3. Work with the Baltimore Fire Department to amend or address fire codes regarding the existing Mattin Center, and **integrate the four existing buildings in Mattin Center into the first levels of a larger student center**.

No matter which route is pursued, we believe it critical that the final structure hold the following items or entities:

- Centralized location within a 10 minute walk of all major on-campus and off-campus housing locations that is ADA-accessible within the boundaries of the campus itself
- Community space of organizations, including office and communal space
- Student services (career center, academic advising, etc.)
- High-quality food with interactive space
- Late night dining (9 PM to 2 AM)
- JHU Community "Vibe"
    - Marketing material-identification and pride in JHU colors and design
    - All-JHU display cases for photography, performances, athletics
    - Exhibition for arts at JHU
    - Exhibition for sports at JHU
    - Exhibition for science/accomplishments at JHU
- Sports-like bar lounge in the center with possible open seating with large television screens for watching JHU games, media, etc.
- Large quantities of natural light and outdoor space, with the Hopkins cultural and architectural heritage retained

If funding exceeds expected amounts, the SGA also notes that a student center would also benefit from, but might not necessarily be in immediate need of, the following items:

- Alcohol/bar
- Movie theater
- Bowling alley
- Dance hall
- A large space for pep rallies (could be near the center itself)

In the short term, we emphasize the necessity to also improve interfacility collaboration between existing locations of student amenities. Even at best, the improvement of interfacility collaboration between existing amenities would not solve the issues of the lack of a student center, though their siloing does present a major challenge in the years before a student center can be built and opened.

## Addenda

Written Memos of Support:

Summary of Hyperlinks: