

Upcoming Enhancements to The George Washington University Retirement Plans Effective October 1, 2009

Dear GW Retirement Plan Participant:

We are pleased to announce enhancements to The George Washington University Retirement plans, including the introduction of Fidelity Investments as the administrative service provider and the creation of a new Web site for GW faculty and staff to access their retirement accounts. In addition, we have expanded the options where eligible employees may direct the University's 4% employer base contribution —you will now be able to choose among TIAA-CREF, Fidelity Investments, and Vanguard family of funds. Previously, employees could only direct the employer base contribution to TIAA-CREF.

To prepare for the upcoming implementation, certain transactions will be limited during a Blackout Period. The duration of the Blackout Period varies for each type of transaction, based on your specific investment provider. The dates and types of transactions affected are summarized in the "Transaction Matrix" section of the enclosed brochure. If you have accounts with more than one investment provider, please refer to the blackout dates for each provider. Enclosed, please find a brochure with more detailed information.

It is important to note that these enhancements only affect the University's 401(a) and 403(b) retirement plans, and that the selection of Fidelity Investments as the administrative service provider will not affect your ability to invest in TIAA-CREF, Fidelity Investments, or the Vanguard family of funds. Equitable will no longer serve as an investment provider beginning October 1, 2009. Equitable participant account balances through September 30, 2009, will remain with Equitable; however, participants must select a new plan provider for future contributions.

You will have the opportunity to learn more and ask questions at several information seminars offered during late August through early October. Specific dates and locations along with details on how to register are listed below. In the meantime, feel free to contact one of the following representatives with questions:

GW Benefits Administration Department: benefits@gwu.edu or 202-994-9620.

TIAA-CREF: 800-842-2776 or go online at www.tiaa-cref.org/gwu.

Fidelity Investments or **Vanguard:** 800-343-0860 or go online at MyRetirementPlan.gwu.edu.

Please choose a date to attend an information seminar:

Foggy Bottom

Monday, August 24, 2009

10–11 a.m. Marvin Center, Room 308
2–3 p.m. Marvin Center, Room 403

Tuesday, September 8, 2009

7:30–8:30 a.m. Marvin Center, Room 403
10–11 a.m. Marvin Center, Room 308
2–3 p.m. Marvin Center, Room 308

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

10–11 a.m. Marvin Center, Room 301
2–3 p.m. Marvin Center, Room 301

Friday, September 18, 2009

10–11 a.m. Marvin Center, Room 301
2–3 p.m. Marvin Center, Room 301

Monday, September 28, 2009

10–11 a.m. Marvin Center, Room 403
2–3 p.m. Marvin Center, Room 405

Thursday, October 8, 2009

10–11 a.m. Marvin Center, Room 405
2–3 p.m. Marvin Center, Room 101

Mount Vernon Campus

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

10–11 a.m. Eckles Library Auditorium

Virginia Campus

Monday, September 14, 2009

10–11 a.m. Room 175
2–3 p.m. EDR

Monday, October 5, 2009

10–11 a.m. Room 175
2–3 p.m. EDR

Biostatistics Center

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

10–11 a.m. Suite 500
2–3 p.m. Suite 500

Reservations

To register for one of these upcoming seminars, please call Fidelity Investments at **800-642-7131**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to midnight Eastern time, or visit www.fidelity.com/atwork/reservations.