Dear Graduate Students,

I write with a brief update about the many efforts underway to improve graduate student housing at Yale and the plans for a new McDougal Center.

**272 Elm Street:**
Last year plans were announced to build a new graduate student residence hall at 272 Elm Street, between Tyco and Trailblazer. I am very pleased to report that last summer a permit for the building was approved by the city. We are now officially in the design phase, which should be complete by the summer of 2016, followed by construction and occupancy by summer 2018. This housing will much better meet graduate student needs, with more common areas, private bathrooms and kitchen space in each unit, a small gym and a convenient central campus location. The dormitory, dining room and McDougal Center will function as usual in HGS until the completion of the 272 Elm Street building, after which HGS will close for an extensive renovation.

**McDougal Center for Graduate Student Life:**
We are committed to having identified interim or perhaps even permanent new space for the McDougal Center by the time HGS closes for renovations. We will have the wonderful opportunity to reimagine the McDougal Center in ways that best meet graduate students’ needs, and also complement the Schwarzman Center, which is in the planning stage right now. Graduate students will be fully integrated into the Schwarzman Center when it opens in 2020 but will also retain their own space in the new, improved McDougal Center in 2018.

**Additional Housing:**
Overall, we anticipate replacing the amount of housing lost when the HGS dorm closes with a combination of spaces in 272 Elm Street and other University-owned properties such as the Swing Space and other buildings in the Broadway district.

**Renovations:**
Finally, you may have noticed that renovations of existing graduate student housing are underway. The renovations are substantial and will occur in two phases. Phase 1 encompasses the Esplanade on Prospect Street, 254 Prospect Street, the brownstones at 379-381 Crown Street, and Helen Hadley Hall, which together comprise about 256 beds. Some of those renovations are currently underway, with others slated to begin in May of 2017. Phase 2 will include the Whitehall apartment buildings and the buildings at 68 Mansfield.
Graduate student input and engagement on these housing processes are important, so I want to remind you how students are involved. The G&P Housing Advisory committee, with student representatives and administrators, (list attached), is led by Deputy Vice President Janet Lindner (janet.lindner@yale.edu), and will be meeting again this year. The Facilities and Health Care Committee of the Graduate Student Assembly (http://gsa.yale.edu/facilities-and-healthcare) also advises us on housing and related issues.

I will keep you apprised as all these plans develop, and I look forward to seeing these improvements of graduate student housing.

With best wishes,

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Message attachments

To open an attachment, click on the link. If you have problems opening an attachment, try copying the link and pasting it into your web browser.

:  https://messages.yale.edu/messages/attachments/w3_129018_G_P_Housing_Advisory_Committee_2015_2016.pdf