

The School Without Walls (SWW), a non-traditional DC public high school established in 1971, aims to utilize the “city as a classroom” to give students a richer and more fulfilling education. Located within the boundaries of **The George Washington University’s** (GW) Foggy Bottom campus at 2130 G Street, NW, the School’s student-centered environment maximizes integrative, interactive, experiential learning within the framework of a humanities approach that stresses collaboration among staff, students, and parents. This “community as a classroom” approach graduates students that are independent, self-motivated and well prepared to handle the rigors of college.

The unique relationship between SWW and GW began in **1980**. Since that time, the two institutions have collaborated on several levels with the goal of fostering a **mutually beneficial learning environment**. Examples of these joint initiatives include:



Proposed addition shown to the left of existing SWW

- **Facilities Sharing.** GW provides SWW students and faculty with access to Gelman Library, the Marvin Center and the Charles E. Smith Athletic Center. SWW provides GW with access to classroom space during the evening hours.

- **Teaching Collaborations.** GW faculty, staff and graduate students guest lecture in SWW classes and teach certain SWW elective courses.

- **Internships for GW Graduate Students.** Students in GW’s Graduate School of Education and Human Development serve as interns at SWW in the areas of science, social studies, special education and counseling.

- **Educational Opportunities.** SWW students, faculty and staff are permitted to enroll in GW courses, with waiver of tuition and fees.

- **Educator Training.** GW offers continuing education opportunities to SWW faculty, specifically the opportunity to achieve the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification.

The public-private development partnership provides for the renovation and modernization of SWW (*detailed on reverse*) and also expands the existing programmatic partnership.

The University’s commitment to the School Without Walls is further exemplified by the **GW’s Trachtenberg Scholarship Program** which provides full, four-year scholarships to academically talented seniors. The scholarships include tuition, fees, housing, meals and books and is valued at approximately \$200,000 over four years. This program has benefited **93 students** since its inception in 1989 – 12 of whom have been SWW students.



GW students are joined by GW and SWW mascots as they celebrate the public-private development partnership

In March 2006, The George Washington University (GW) and the School Without Walls (SWW) started **a new chapter in their long-standing partnership** by executing a Memorandum of Understanding which provides GW the opportunity to acquire the SWW back parking lot and additional development rights in exchange for providing funding to support the **modernization and expansion of the SWW facility**. After receiving unanimous approval from both the DC City Council and the DC School Board, DCPS and GW submitted a joint zoning application for this project in April 2006 which was **unanimously** approved in November 2006 by the DC Zoning Commission.

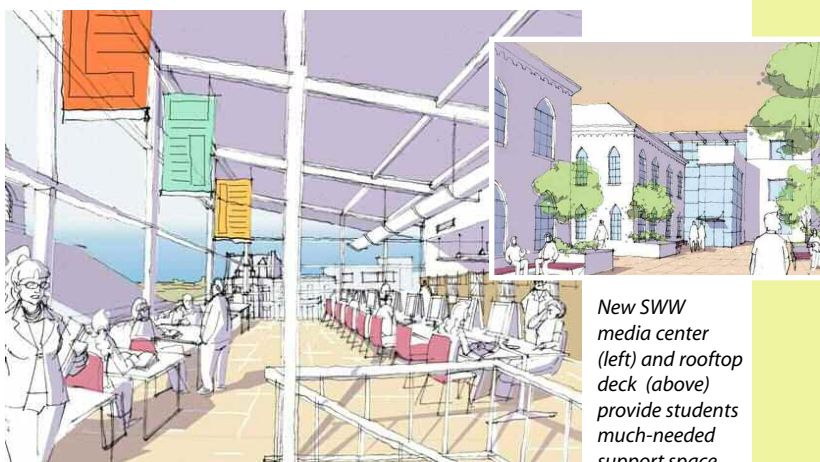
This approval set in motion plans for GW to combine the back parking lot with the neighboring GW tennis courts to house a **new undergraduate residence hall** with approximately 474 beds and 178 underground parking spaces. DCPS will use the approximate \$12 million generated from the sale (in addition to \$6 million already allocated by DCPS) to **modernize the facilities and create additional space** for classrooms, as well as a media center and outdoor space. Both the GW and SWW projects commenced in late fall 2007 and are anticipated for completion in 2009. For weekly construction progress updates on GW's new residence hall, visit the campus development section of www.neighborhood.gwu.edu



SWW student learns she will be a Trachtenberg scholar.



Concept rendering for new GW residence hall at 2135 F Street, N.W.



New SWW media center (left) and rooftop deck (above) provide students much-needed support space.

QUICK FACTS ON THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

	SWW Project	GW Project
Scope:	Modernization & addition to existing SWW facility	Construction of a new undergraduate residence hall
Program:	additional classrooms, labs, and meeting/support spaces roof terrace for outdoor space	474 beds arranged in apartment style suites with single bedrooms; 178 parking spaces
TOTAL Sq.Ft. (approx): (above grade/total)	48,000/67,000	192,000/280,000
New Sq.Ft. (approx): (above grade/total)	24,500/35,000	192,000/280,000
Max Height:	89 feet at existing tower	90 feet
Key Design Elements:	preservation of existing building, & its "stand alone" appearance; responds to block's historic character	rear courtyard provides "2 nd front door" from center of campus; contextual design
Timeline:	both the GW and SWW projects commenced in 2007 with completion anticipated in fall 2009	