

By a vote of 45 to 0, the UGFTV Faculty at the Tisch School of the Arts supports submitting the following statement to NYU President Sexton:

The Faculty of the Undergraduate Department of Film and Television, Tisch School of the Arts, wishes to share its concerns about the proposed 2031 development plan.

We acknowledge that certain departments are in desperate need of space. Nonetheless we are concerned about the scope and size of the project and its implications for the quality of the educational experience that we already struggle to maintain with declining resources.

At a time of fiscal and economic uncertainty, there has been no transparency about how the cost of this huge expansion project will be paid. There has been no serious consultation with NYU faculty regarding the rationale for the plan.

We are concerned that NYU students --- already among the most indebted in the nation --- will almost certainly bear the burden of meeting the expansion cost in the form of increased tuition and other fees.

We are concerned that this debt will further strain the amount NYU spends per student, the quality and quantity of faculty and student research support, the hiring of new faculty and program development, and school and department budgets in general.

We believe that the disruption caused by many years of construction in and around Washington Square Village and Silver Towers will have serious adverse effects on faculty quality of life, and thus on the retention and recruitment of high-quality faculty, which is at the heart of our academic mission. This is an issue of concern even for faculty who do not themselves reside in Washington Square Village or Silver Towers.

Finally, we believe that the execution of the 2031 plan may result in an irreparable rift with our community neighbors, and that their right to shape the destiny of Greenwich Village should be respected.