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TO: Boston University Faculty and Staff

FROM: Jean Morrison, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer 

DATE: August 18, 2014

SUBJECT: Child Care Services Advisory Committee

As we continue our efforts to recruit and retain outstanding faculty and staff, we recognize that the nature and quality of our child care services are essential to our success. As we explore the options for how we provide child care services for faculty and staff, we want to ensure that we have assessed the strengths and weaknesses of all of the options and considered the associated costs and benefits.

I am asking an advisory committee composed of faculty and administrative leaders to assess the landscape related to child care services at BU, to review and weigh the options, and develop recommendations for how BU should structure its approach to providing child care resources to families. The committee will conduct its work during the fall 2014 semester with the goal of submitting its recommendations to President Brown and me by January 15, 2015 based on the following specific charge:

1. Gather comparative data on the practices of our peer institutions related to child care services, including those that outsource this benefit and those that provide it internally;
2. Complete a financial assessment of alternatives including estimated cost and possible funding models;
3. Provide recommendations on how to move forward based on the information gathered and analyzed.

Members of the Child Care Services Advisory Committee include:

Diane Tucker, Chief Human Resources Officer, Chair
Pamela Templer, Associate Professor of Biology, CAS, Co-Chair
David Breen, Clinical Associate Professor, LAW
Michelle Consalvo, Assistant Vice President, Government & Community Affairs
Michael Difabio, Senior Associate Vice President, Real Estate
Ines Garrant, Associate Vice President for Budget & Planning
Kristen Gruber, Director, Office of Family Resources and BU Child Care Center
Nicole Hawkes, Associate Provost for Strategic Initiatives
Daniel Miller, Assistant Professor, SSW
William Waters, Associate Professor of Modern Languages and Comparative Literature, CAS

Lauren Wise, Associate Professor of Epidemiology, SPH

Please join me in thanking the members of the committee for their willingness to work on this important issue.

Strengthening BU's position as an employer of choice for outstanding faculty and staff is among our top priorities, and the University's ability to support them with high quality choices for child care services is critical.

cc: Robert A. Brown, President
Academic Deans
Provost's Cabinet