

**Academic Council Meeting**  
**October 17, 2024**  
**3:30 – 5:00 PM**  
**0012 Westbrook Building (Divinity School)**

1. Welcome / Remarks from the Chair
2. Approval of the September 19, 2024 Meeting [Minutes](#)
3. Response from Senior Administrators to the Following Anonymous Question:

*“There are already a lot of challenges with creating new lab spaces for faculty as they join Duke, both due to increasing space limitations and especially the impact of deferred maintenance in many science buildings. This has already in the past led to new faculty waiting months or even years for adequate lab spaces, and to debate about whether we can even consider requesting faculty searches that target any precision-lab experiment research areas. It has also directly impacted recent (even already deferred) tenure cases. With the addition to these challenges of sustained new (very needed) major renovations on campus, what is the administration doing to ensure that faculty will have the labs they need to do any, but hopefully world-leading, research at Duke in a timely way? Can the administration give the faculty a commitment that lab space will be ready when faculty arrive at Duke on a reasonable timeline from hire?”*

4. Presentation and Discussion of the Final Report of the Committee on Reference Checking Practices for Faculty Hiring: Abbas Benmamoun (Committee Chair), Vice Provost for Faculty Advancement ([Report](#)) ([APC resolution](#))