

A photograph of a modern brick building with large glass windows and a curved facade, set against a blue sky with light clouds. The building is surrounded by a well-maintained green lawn and several trees. A green rectangular box is overlaid on the top center of the image, containing the text 'SKIDMORE COLLEGE' in white.

SKIDMORE  
C O L L E G E

# CREATING PATHWAYS TO EXCELLENCE:

THE PLAN FOR SKIDMORE COLLEGE 2015–2025

# Our Objective

We expect Skidmore graduates to be able to travel anywhere in the United States and the world, develop an understanding of the local culture, interact effectively with people across lines of difference, identify key issues, and draw upon their liberal education to develop creative solutions to address them. We further expect that when potential employers or admissions deans of graduate and professional schools see “Skidmore College” on a resume, they will think, “This is someone who will elevate our organization.”

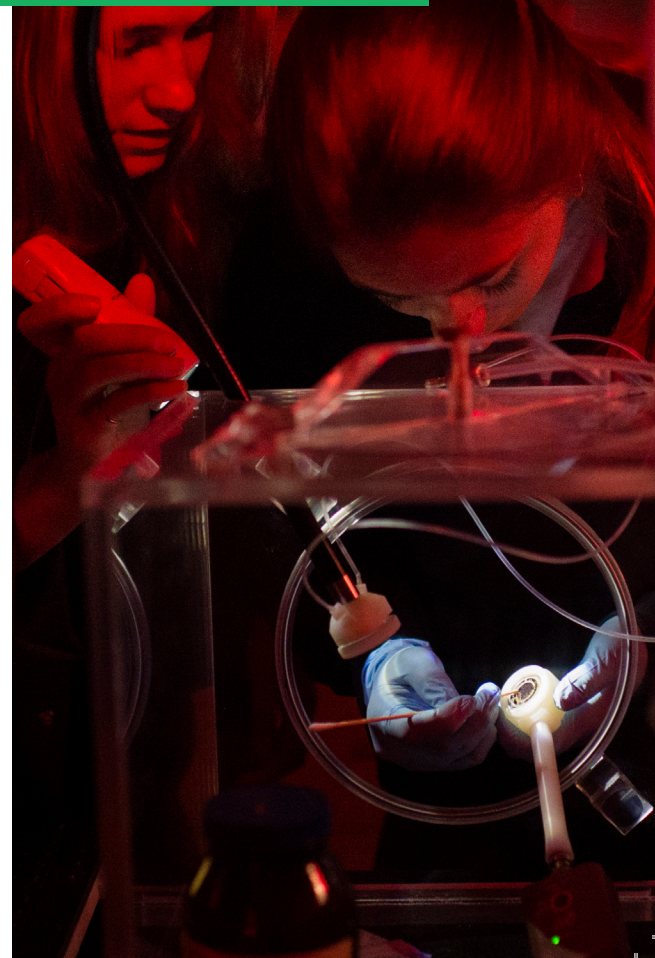
# Goal I — Integrative Learning and Education

**To develop students' capacities to create, imagine, and change the world, and to enhance the work of the faculty as teacher–scholars:**

We will invest in pedagogical and scholarly programs and educational strategies that develop the capacities of students and faculty members to achieve, model, and demonstrate excellence as scholarly, creative, and integrative learners. In doing so we are committed to developing and implementing new and creative pedagogies and curricula that will support our transition to a technology-rich college.

## **Priority Initiatives:**

- Complete fundraising and construct the Center for Integrated Sciences.
- Create new structures to support student integrative learning, making that concept a regular part of Skidmore's internal narrative.
- Develop new ways to support faculty members across all three dimensions of their work: teaching, research/creative activity, and service.
- Provide digital/IT resources for the development of new approaches to integrative learning and enhancing connectivity.
- Build stronger and more coherent curricular and cocurricular programs to enhance civic engagement, social responsibility, and the connection between liberal education and responsible citizenship.
- Identify specific ways to further enhance connections between the curricular and cocurricular lives of our students.



# Goal II — Access

## To ensure access for all our students to an extraordinary educational experience:

Students will have full access to opportunities for educational excellence across all three phases of their Skidmore careers—at admission, as undergraduate learners, and in transition to their postcollege lives.

### Priority Initiatives:

- Strengthen financial aid and outreach programs that enable the broadest range of students from across the country and around the world to attend Skidmore.
- Strengthen programs that enhance access to academic opportunities for all students.
- Develop new creative ways to position Skidmore graduates to take their initial steps into their postcollege lives and enhance ongoing career support for all graduates.

Admitting students is only the first step: if our goal is to engage *all* Skidmore students in liberal learning, they must have equal opportunity to participate in the full range of curricular and cocurricular experiences the College offers.



# Goal III — Well-Being

## To strengthen the inclusiveness, health, and well-being of our community:

We will create new opportunities for developing the skills that will make Skidmore a more healthful, inclusive, and creative community.

### Priority Initiatives:

- Develop additional institutional capacity and programming to make Skidmore a truly creative and inclusive community, such that other schools look to Skidmore as a model.
- Create new opportunities to foster practices that enhance the wellness and well-being of all community members.

“As our current *Strategic Plan* makes clear, Skidmore is also deeply committed to fostering inclusive excellence — affirming that our diversity makes us a stronger, more vibrant, and more creative community, provided we enable everyone to participate fully in our shared enterprise.”

— PRESIDENT PHILIP A. GLOTZBACH



# Goal IV — Sustainability

## To continue to build a sustainable institutional foundation for excellence:

Deploying the concept of sustainability, broadly understood, as an organizing principle, we will invest our time, energy, and funding in initiatives to ensure the College's long-term viability and success.

### Priority Initiatives:

- Continue to develop, effectively manage, and steward the financial resources necessary to maintain ongoing College operations and achieve the objectives incorporated in this *Plan*.
- Managing our Human Resources—Strategic Alignment.
- Managing our Physical and Natural Resources—Campus Sustainability.
- Strengthening the Extended Skidmore Community and Enhance our Public Identity.



For the full *Strategic Plan*, visit:  
[skidmore.edu/planning](https://skidmore.edu/planning)



# In Conclusion

**Guided by this *Strategic Plan*, the Skidmore community will strive to cultivate creativity in service of integrative learning, inclusive excellence, access, well-being, and sustainability.**

In pointing the way for the College to achieve the goals identified above, this *Plan* represents the convergence of our aspirations and the imperative to push the boundaries of creativity and imagination. These goals set out a 10-year vision for the College. During this time, additional action steps will be identified as part of our ongoing institutional strategic thinking—especially in the process of developing annual Action Agendas (a practice that was integral to the success of the previous *Plan*), as well as in a formal review at the five-year midpoint. But at the heart of this work stands our ongoing commitment to the values of liberal education that animate our mission, to the specific values of creative thought and inclusive excellence, and above all to the success of our students.



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CREATIVE THOUGHT MATTERS