FEC 2/13/13 Minutes

In attendance: April Bernard, Jörg Bibow, Barbara Black (chair), Paul Sattler (scribe); Guests from FDC, Alice Dean, Paty Rubio, Flagg Taylor

I. The 2/06/13 minutes were approved with minor revisions. Paul will make the changes and post the minutes on the FEC website.

II. Guests from FDC, Alice Dean, Paty Rubio, Flagg Taylor presented the background and rational behind a proposal to change the timing and deadlines of sabbatical requests and funding. The proposal is to have full-year sabbatical applications due in October and keep the current mid-January deadline for half-year sabbaticals. After discussion, FDC agreed to send FEC new language for the Faculty Handbook and a rational for the motion. It will be presented at the March 1st Faculty meeting.

III. Board books were distributed in advance of Board of Trustees’ campus visit.

IV. The committee discussed whether to pursue a motion to include “Program” in the heading of section XIX, Part One of the Handbook (page 137). It was decided that the item would be withdrawn from this agenda, but reinstated in FEC’s general agenda for the following year and passed on to the next committee chair for consideration. At this time, Barbara reminded the continuing members of FEC that it is that time of the semester to decide who will chair the committee next year.

V. Jörg will be running WTS Round III. Included in this round will be a special WTS regarding VPAA/DOF Beau Breslin’s Faculty Workload Working Group membership. The VPAA/DOF’s most recent draft of the proposal addresses many of the concerns that FEC expressed at the previous meeting and outlines the membership of the group. This information will be forwarded to Sue Blair with the rest of the routine Round III ballot info.

VI. Another brainstorming session ensued, as FEC continues to review work of governance/service at Skidmore. After discussing several models at other colleges, the members agreed that a Committee of the Whole should be reserved for the Faculty to discuss the topic during the early April Faculty Meeting. FEC feels that, in light of the VPAA/DOF’s Working Group, the COW will assist in initiating early discussion among the entire Faculty. Attention was brought to Barbara’s recent draft of “A Thought Experiment” with some discussion and suggestions.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10pm

Respectfully submitted, Paul