Committee of Committees Meeting Report
May 1st, 2026 10:30-11:45 AM
Dining Hall Test Kitchen

Attendees

FEC (Ting Li, Jeremy Day-O'Connell, Pat Hilleren), Larry Jorgensen (ATC chair), Mimi Hellman (The incoming PC chair), Tim Harper (IPPC vice chair), Amy Frappier (CEPP chair), Erica Bastress-Dukehart (CAFR chair), Eric Morser (CC chair), Monica Das (FDC chair), Joseph Cermatori (PHF chair), Daniel Peterson (AC chair), Aiwu Zhao (CIGU chair), Greg Pfitzer (CAS chair).

The FEC Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending the meeting. The Chair then invited each committee chair to provide a brief update on their committee's activities during the spring semester.

IPPC - Institutional Policy and Planning Committee

- Reported a positive working relationship between the Chair and Vice-Chair, with the Vice-Chair's feedback incorporated before, during, and after meetings.
- Reactivated the Budget and Finance and Student Affairs subcommittees after concerns about limited Fall 2025 activity. The Budget and Finance Subcommittee resumed meetings focused on assumptions and projections, while Student Affairs planned three spring meetings.
- Conducted a check-in on the 2025-2026 Strategic Action Agenda and reviewed updates related to budget development and Middle States reaccreditation. The committee noted positive feedback from the reaccreditation team visit.
- Reviewed institutional guidance and policy on the use of artificial intelligence and continued gathering feedback from across the community.
- Endorsed the CIGU Land Acknowledgement motion and considered creation of an Enrollment Opportunity Working Group focused on enrollment pressures, net tuition revenue, financial aid, and related challenges.
- Received Title VI updates, including information on the federal requirement for a designated Title VI Coordinator and the College's work toward revised and interim policies.
- Advanced mission-statement review through a community survey intended to inform two or three draft statements for further consideration.
- Continued discussion of an accessibility subcommittee, task force, or working group, including its charge, membership, leadership, timeline, and best practices.
- Also reviewed SGA election updates, major search updates, Board of Trustees activity, the President's higher-education context and spring priorities, and inclusive-community initiatives such as all-gender restrooms, name policy, employee resource groups, and Lovefest 2026.

CIGU - Committee on Intercultural and Global Understanding

- Continued coordinating campus events, including Lovefest 2026 and "Spill the Disabili-Tea," an interactive program focused on disability justice, access, and unlearning ableism.
- Participated in a Board of Trustees Foundation 4 implementation session designed as a collaborative working meeting between Board members and CIGU participants.
- The Foundation 4 session centered on meaningful dialogue, accessibility, and land acknowledgement. Kay Olan, Indigenous Elder-in-Residence, and Will Bryce '26 of the Native American Club contributed context and guidance on land acknowledgement.

- A summary of the Foundation 4 discussion and outcomes was shared with CIGU members to guide future work.
- Participated in the Institutional Diversity component of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education peer-review process.
- Formed a Land Acknowledgement Working Group composed of five CIGU members and three representatives from the Indigenization and Decolonization Collaborative.
- The working group refined draft language through multiple rounds and incorporated community feedback to improve accuracy, inclusion, and representation. CIGU approved the final language, which IPPC then approved on April 17.
- Invited Siobhan Hart to update the committee on institutional NAGPRA compliance and discussed how CIGU might support campus awareness and related work.

FEC - Faculty Executive Committee

- Held weekly meetings throughout the semester to manage ongoing tasks and ensure timely progress on committee responsibilities.
- Coordinated the nomination and election of faculty representatives for the Director of Athletics Screening Committee and the DoF/VPAA Search Committee.
- Coordinated the call for self-nominations (WTS) and election of a faculty representative for the Working Group developing recommendations on service compensation, as well as chair and program director compensation, including the number of course releases.
- Coordinated the call for self-nominations (WTS) and election of a faculty representative for the Enrollment Opportunity Working Group.
- Invited Dave DeConno, Registrar, to an FEC meeting to discuss the Academic Calendar.
- Discussed the updates to the FEC Operating Code.
- Continued efforts to fill vacancies on faculty governance committees.
- Due to a limited ad hoc pool, FEC invited members of Cohorts B, C, and D to self-nominate for early service beginning in Fall 2026 (instead of Fall 2027).
- Conducted a special election for SRC and nominated a faculty member to serve on the CEPP GSLD Subcommittee (Goals for Student Learning & Development).
- Shared a draft proposal on divisional representation with chairs of the five governance committees that require the divisional representation, as well as pre-professional department chairs, to gather feedback.
- Discussed a draft proposal on the Study Group of Tenure.
- Hosted an FEC open forum on April 17, 2026.

ATC - Appointments and Tenure Committee

- Worked with CEPP and Institutional Research on the transition to online qSETs, continuing consultation on implementation questions that affect faculty review processes.
- Collaborated with the Promotions Committee on classification of letters, including distinctions among external, departmental, internal, and unsolicited letters, and on Faculty Handbook language related to promotion.
- Partnered with the Dean's Office to offer three spring information sessions: one for new tenure-line faculty and their chairs/program directors; one for newly renewed tenure-line faculty and faculty approaching tenure review; and one specifically for chairs and program directors.
- Discussed with the Dean's Office several personnel-process issues, including letter classification, tenure and promotion language in model personnel procedures, and tenure processes for faculty in small departments. ATC described these interactions as productive and collaborative.

- Engaged with the President's Office on four major matters: faculty representation on the DOF/VPAA search committee, review of senior administration, ATC Operating Code language concerning interim vice-presidential appointments, and general questions related to the tenure process.
- Worked with Chief Human Resources Officer Julie Delay during the Review of Senior Administration process, which resulted in significant changes to that review process.

PC - Promotions Committee

- Reviewed five cases for promotion to Full Professor and made recommendations to the President. The committee also began considering how best to document and strengthen review practices for future cases.
- Expanded guidance for promotion candidates and their department/program chairs, incorporating additional advice into the May information-session materials.
- Reviewed committee membership structures at peer and aspirant institutions. PC presented a motion in March 2026 to require at least two Full Professors on the committee; a faculty vote was scheduled for the next faculty meeting.
- Considered confidentiality and categorization of unsolicited letters, including letters from retirees and NTT faculty who do not participate in departmental review. PC consulted with the Chairs of ATC and CAFR and with ADoF Perez Hernandez.
- Discussed creating a clearer distinction between letters solicited by a candidate and letters that are genuinely unsolicited, with possible Faculty Handbook language changes to be considered next year.
- Met with the ATC Chair to clarify that standing for promotion should not precede standing for tenure, and reviewed endowed-chair nominees.
- Participated in CEPP's student-evaluation forum and discussed implementation of online student evaluations with ATC, the Dean's Office, and Institutional Research.
- Revised the slide deck for the May information session for promotion candidates and chairs/program directors, updated the 2026-2027 PC calendar, and reviewed a template for external letters addressing teaching and/or service.
- The PC Chair represented the committee in Middle States preparation and peer-review team meetings. PC also reported strong working relationships with the Dean's Office and productive collaboration with ATC, CAFR, CEPP, and FEC.
- **Looking ahead:** Continue developing best practices for file review and revisit possible Faculty Handbook changes concerning letter classifications.

CEPP - Committee on Educational Policies and Planning

- Met weekly throughout the year with five voting faculty members, the Faculty Director of Assessment, two SGA representatives, and designated administrators. CEPP highlighted strong student participation and collaborative engagement from both the Dean of Student Affairs/VPSA and Dean of Faculty/VPAA.
- Raised concern about uneven faculty rotation on CEPP. With three faculty rotating off, two continuing, and three new members joining, the committee warned of leadership and continuity challenges and encouraged FEC to use one-year replacement terms when possible to improve the distribution of service cycles.
- Focused extensively on the transition to online qSETs. CEPP held a well-attended staff forum, advanced a Faculty Handbook motion aligning policy with online delivery, drafted instructions

for faculty and students, and facilitated a Committee of the Whole discussion on stronger long-form questions.

- Worked closely with Institutional Research, ATC, and PC on implementation and on the need for greater consistency in departmental long-form instruments. A subcommittee partnership with WGIATL explored extending online evaluations to free-response questions.
- With the Faculty Director of Assessment, reviewed and endorsed the next assessment plan, including Coda and visual literacy in the major, and reviewed the broader assessment outlook for coming years.
- Worked with the Curriculum Committee on the Senior Coda element of the All-College Requirements, recommending a return to the faculty-approved language and supporting a more comprehensive review next year.
- Reviewed the FYE self-study and external review, discussed recommendations and an action plan, and considered assessment of sustainability learning outcomes.
- Discussed accessibility and digital equity with Student Affairs, Communications, LEDS, and The Learning Commons, including implications of evolving federal regulations and higher-education standards.
- Participated in the MSCHE peer-review visit and reviewed the Goals for Student Learning & Development (GSLD), last revised in 2008-09. CEPP plans to establish a subcommittee in 2026-2027 to develop recommendations for updating the GSLD.
- Considered AI pressures on the College, including an expert presentation by Tom O'Connell, and reviewed a proposed Skidmore micro-credentials program focused initially on AI, Microsoft Excel, and A/V tools used by MDOCs.
- Received a Sustainability proposal concerning curricular elements in support of Foundation 5 of the Strategic Plan and will continue that work next year.
- Reviewed a proposal from OCSE and FYE to sunset the London FYE program and develop a successor program that preserves a strong global element while responding to rising costs and student-support needs. CEPP updated faculty on the draft proposal and will continue design work through a subcommittee.
- Considered FEC proposals related to divisional representation, aligning the October study day with Indigenous Peoples' Day, and expanding Thanksgiving Break to a full week. CEPP determined that more detail was needed on divisional representation, declined to endorse the study-day proposal, and noted that a full-week Thanksgiving break would require faculty support for online classes on Monday and Tuesday.
- **Looking ahead:** Guide the online-evaluation transition; continue curricular assessment, accessibility, AI, sustainability, and Residential Life Curriculum work; develop the London/FYE successor proposal; and complete GSLD review planning.

CAFR - Committee on Academic Freedom and Rights

- Participated with ATC and PC in a fall anti-bias literacy session supporting CAFR's role in the tenure-appeal process. No tenure appeals were filed during the year.
- Handled four formal consultations with the administration, including one concerning the climate for Freedom of Expression and Academic Freedom and Rights.
- Participated in one formal consultation with shared-governance committees and an Associate Dean of Faculty concerning a motion expected to come before the faculty.

- Responded to two informal inquiries initiated by faculty and one initiated by a student. None advanced to a formal inquiry. Informal inquiries may involve information gathering, clarification, investigation, or attempts at informal resolution or mediation.
- Participated in two shared-governance meetings and two Committee of Committees meetings. Altogether, the committee estimated that its work required approximately 25 meetings, some involving a CAFR quorum.
- Continued using Zoom for confidential meetings with complainants, respondents, and administrators and indicated that it will continue to advocate for remote meetings when appropriate for equity and inclusion.
- The CAFR Chair was scheduled to meet with the Board of Trustees on May 14, 2026. No recommendation to the Dean of Faculty was submitted for this academic year.

CC - Curriculum Committee

- Maintained responsibility for preserving the integrity of the faculty-approved curriculum, reviewing course and program changes, and consulting with other committees and stakeholders. The committee reported a collegial and productive working relationship and benefited from two strong SGA student representatives.
- Met 13 times in the fall and 14 times in the spring.
- Approved 33 new courses, with 6 additional proposals pending revision; approved 2 travel seminars, 1 London FYE, and 17 new Scribner Seminars.
- Approved 20 program/major/minor revisions, 34 course revisions with 3 additional proposals pending, and 109 routine revisions.
- Worked with Rachel Roe Dale to streamline review of SSP courses, consulted with CEPP on the upcoming review of the Senior Coda, approved revised language for the Accommodating Students with Disabilities statement, and began reviewing courses with the Liberal Arts designation.
- Worked with Kelly Sheppard on assessment of flexible fourth-credit-hour courses.
- **Looking ahead:** Consult with CEPP on the Senior Coda general-education requirement and continue review of the Liberal Arts designation.

FDC - Faculty Development Committee

- Reviewed applications and made recommendations across a broad range of faculty-development awards and honors, including faculty research and development support, Emeritus Faculty Development Grants, the Ralph A. Ciancio Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Edwin M. Moseley Faculty Lectureship, and the Phyllis A. Roth Distinguished Service Award.
- Continued broader faculty-development work through discussion of policies, procedures, and award guidelines.
- Discussed committee leadership and planning for 2026-2027 and beyond, including the chair arrangement, possible Faculty Handbook revisions, and other process and responsibility questions.

PHF - Periclean Honors Forum

- The Council met biweekly throughout the academic year and continued regular business, including review of Honors Forum applicants.

- Received 88 applications; 82 students were accepted and inducted, including 66 first-year students and 16 second-year students. Current Honors Forum enrollment was 204 students, including 26 graduating seniors.
- Sponsored a New York City field trip to see The Great Gatsby: The Musical, a Welcome Back picnic, and numerous student-led social activities including composting parties, holiday parties, and study breaks.
- Hosted a faculty-student dialogue featuring Mitia Sanghvi and a Ramsey Lecture by Joowon Park focused on research at the Korean DMZ and his related travel seminar.
- Considered separating the Ramsey Lecture and Induction Ceremony in future years to create more opportunities for students to satisfy the Honors Forum event-attendance expectation.
- Co-hosted a Dialogue Across Difference event with Atlantic writer Thomas Chatterton Williams and Professors Robert Boyers and Joseph Cermatori on free speech.
- Planned the Academic Festival showcasing graduating seniors' work across academic departments.
- Hosted a keynote lecture by Lisa Siraganian on The Problem of Personhood: Giving Rights to Trees, Corporations, and Robots, including a small student dinner discussion with the speaker.
- Selected Periclean Scholar Award recipients and reviewed numerous honors projects, independent studies, and capstone applications.
- An external review of the Honors Forum, the first since 2010, is underway. The current chair will continue next year, with an interim chair needed in Spring 2027 during the chair's leave.

AC - Athletic Council

- Conducted its regular business, including evaluation of physical-activity course instructors, consultation with offices that affect athletics, selection of the Tim Brown Award recipient, and updates from Athletics leadership. AC met six times during the academic year.
- Faculty members observed the classes of David Bostick, Brad Campion, and Amanda Wadsworth and submitted written instructor evaluations.
- Held annual meetings with Admissions, Advancement, Financial Aid, and The Learning Commons to stay informed about policies and practices affecting student-athletes.
- Devoted particular attention to academic success for student-athletes. The Learning Commons joined AC to discuss available support and ways to improve awareness among first-year student-athletes.
- Explored several support strategies, leading to plans for a SAAC resource scavenger hunt for incoming athletes and greater communication with coaches about available academic-support resources and time-management programming.
- Received an overview from Admissions of athletic recruitment and from Financial Aid of its role in recruiting student-athletes. AC agreed that Financial Aid should become part of the annual key-office visit cycle.
- Discussed athletics-related fundraising with Advancement.
- Selected David Koffler (Men's Lacrosse, '26) for the Tim Brown Award recognizing both academic and athletic excellence.
- Supported SAAC/SGA initiatives including a survey of student-athlete experiences, development of the campus-resource scavenger hunt, and follow-up on the opt-in housing pilot. Residential Life expressed openness to continuing the housing option.
- Karen Kellogg will serve as AC Chair in 2026-2027; Kate Berheide will continue as a faculty representative, and Mark Rye will begin a new faculty term.

CAS - Committee on Academic Standing

- Continued its core responsibility for formulating and administering policy concerning students' academic status, including probation, honors, graduation requirements, acceleration, and leaves of absence.
- Met weekly to consider petitions for exceptions to the CAS Operating Code and Registrar deadlines.
- Conducted academic reviews of students on probation or otherwise not meeting minimum standards for credits earned or GPA in a term.
- Reviewed senior transcripts to determine graduation eligibility.
- Discussed grade inflation at the College, particularly its implications for all-College honors and College-wide GPAs.