

INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
September 9, 2016
10:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Cerri A. Banks; Mary Lou Bates; Paul Calhoun; Bill Duffy; Julia Elstein; Cynthia Evans; Philip A. Glotzbach, Chair; Tim Harper, Vice Chair; Lisa Hobbs; Mark Hofmann; James Kennelly; Kris Leggiero; Eric Morser; Dorothy Parsons; Levi Rogers; Denise Smith; Joseph Stankovich; Mike West; Joshua C. Woodfork.

ABSENT: April Bernard; Beau Breslin; Michael Casey; Debra Townsend.

1. Welcome and Introductions

President Glotzbach introduced new members and thanked everyone on the committee for their service. He acknowledged last year's work of the committee on the *Strategic Plan* and Middle States reaccreditation.

2. What is Your Role on the Committee?

President Glotzbach reviewed the role of the committee: to review, discuss, and vote on policies of the College. He indicated that the role of individual committee members was not just to represent a constituency, but to also provide their individual opinion and perspective. He further indicated that the committee is tasked with helping to make decisions that are in the best interest of the college at-large.

Committee Vice Chair Tim Harper suggested new members refer to last year's Annual Report to get an idea of topics covered during the last academic year.

3. Admissions and Financial Aid Update

Vice President and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid Mary Lou Bates reported that the first-year class has a total of 717 students, with 680 here in Saratoga Springs and 37 in London. She reported that they live in 31 different states and 55 countries and were selected from an applicant pool of almost 9,200 with a 29% acceptance rate. A record 49% applied and were accepted early decision. 24% self-identified as domestic students of color, and the class is 41% male and 59% female. She indicated that 15% are the first in their family to go to college and that 21% speak a language other than English at home – including 29 different languages.

Mary Lou also reported that 39% are receiving grant assistance which is lower than the target of 42%.

Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs Cerri Banks reported that the student move-in went very well and that she experienced great interaction with parents with no major issues.

President Glotzbach indicated that the large class, combined with the fact that fewer students opted to move off campus and study abroad this fall caused a housing crunch. An administrative Housing Committee has been formed to look at long term plans for housing.

4. President's Report

President Glotzbach reported that the College is committed to the Center for Integrated Sciences (CIS); that the Board has authorized the college to move forward with Payette to create construction drawings, after which, the permitting process may begin.

He further reported that the geothermal drilling was complete with a total of 240 wells at 500 feet deep (each). There is still major work on this project to be done, such as repairing parking lots.

President Glotzbach reported that the college has retained Sarah Delaney Vero, from Delaney Vero law firm in Albany to serve as interim Title IX Coordinator. Joshua Woodfork is heading up a screening group of students, staff, and faculty to look for a permanent hire.

He also reported that commitments thus far in Creating our Future: The Campaign for Skidmore total \$121M.

President Glotzbach indicated the annual *US News* rankings will be released next week and that Skidmore is #38 in the National Liberal Arts category. Skidmore was also on the *US News* lists for: A+ Schools for B Students, Schools with the Most International Students, High School Counselor's Top Picks (#29), Programs to Look for: First-Year Experience, and Programs to Look for: Study Abroad. Skidmore's peer assessment improved this year.

President Glotzbach also indicated the annual *Princeton Review* rankings were released. The College continues to score mid to high 90's in several categories in the *Princeton Review*.

President Glotzbach announced that after five years in the Dean's Office, Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs Beau Breslin will be stepping down at the end of the fall 2017 semester. After taking a sabbatical beginning January 2018, Beau plans to return to teaching in the Political Science Department. A national search for his replacement will begin next fall. President Glotzbach will consult with the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC), the Committee on Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure (CAPT), and IPPC on search steps. This news about Beau will be reported at the Faculty Meeting and to the entire Skidmore Community as well. .

President Glotzbach noted that the College will continue very important work this year on diversity and inclusion, including a number of opportunities this fall to continue dialog and attend lectures.

Joshua C. Woodfork, Vice President for Strategic Planning and Institutional Diversity provided some examples of upcoming opportunities including a dance and theater performance from guest artists of DNAWORKS, a book and reading discussion with staff, the return of Swarthmore College professor Sarah Willie-LeBreton, and many events at the Tang.

5. Subcommittees Check-In

Joshua reminded the committee that past work with FEC and IPPC included asking: do we have the right subcommittees? Do we have the right membership on those committees? Are these subcommittees working as efficiently and effectively as they should be?

Joshua asked the chairs of each subcommittee to report on the status of their membership, meeting schedule, and any items of which IPPC should be aware.

Subcommittee on Budget and Finance

Chair Mike West reported that the committee membership is full and a survey will be going out regarding committee meeting times.

Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS)

Chair Levi Rogers noted that the committee is still looking for one student member. The committee will be going back to their roots this year and focusing on policy and development.

Subcommittee on Student Affairs

Co-Chair Cerri Banks indicated that they still need one faculty member and have scheduled committee meetings.

Committee on Intercultural and Global Understanding (CIGU)

Co-Chair Cindy Evans indicated that they have two spots – one faculty and one student – left to fill. The committee is working on meeting times. Discussions will include how to move forward with CIGU and Middle States recommendations from last year.

Bias Response Group (BRG) (a subcommittee of CIGU)

Chair Cerri Banks reports that they need one more faculty member and will meet as needed.

Subcommittee Responsible Citizenship (SRC)

Co-Chair Eric Morser reported that the committee membership is full, and that they plan to provide an update soon about broader civic engagement issues.

Assessment Subcommittee (AS)

The committee will work on moving the recommendations from the Middle States Reaccreditation process forward, including assessment beyond the division of Academic Affairs.

Two other groups:

Space Planning Working Group (SPWG)

Reports the need for one student representative. The group will be engaging a consultant to assist with space inventory.

Enrollment Management Group (EMG)

Chair Mary Lou Bates indicated the administrative group's membership is fixed and that the group held its first meeting and has a semester meeting schedule. Part of the work discussed is revisiting a retention study and continuing to publicize the test-optional admissions policy.

6. Strategic Plan Executive Summary Review

President Glotzbach presented an overview of the four goals of the *Strategic Plan*, and discussed the need to involve all constituencies in efforts to focus energy toward carrying out the *plan*. He indicated that President's Cabinet is currently working on a *Strategic Action Agenda* (SAA) to assist with the near term goals, and that the IPPC will keep an eye on all of the different recommendations of the *Plan* to determine how to best accomplish the work.

7. Other

Michael West, reporting on behalf of Associate Dean of the Faculty and chair of the Starbuck Center Steering Committee Crystal Moore, noted per the College blog that Starbuck Center was recently given a clean bill of health, with a final report to be presented to the community on September 13 at 3:00 p.m. in Gannett Auditorium.

He also reported that the Board of Trustees recently authorized and directed the development of an Athletic Facilities Master Plan with advanced concept designs to assist in fundraising and that after an extensive Request for Proposals (RFP) process, Cannon Design has been engaged to do this work.

The meeting adjourned at 11:48 AM.

Please notify the President's Office of any changes to these minutes.