

**INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 17, 2023**

Present: Adrian Bautista, Marc Conner (Chair), Tim Harper, Nick Junkerman, Masako Inamoto, Dan Konstalid, Michelle Hubbs, Nathaniel Lowell '24, Josh Maxwell '26, Dorothy Mosby, Lori Parks, Beth Post, Jess Ricker, Tarah Rowse, Rodrigo Schneider, Joseph Stankovich, Smitri Tiwari (Vice Chair), Amy Tweedy, Sarah Delany Vero, Dominique Vuvan, Joshua Woodfork,

Zoom: Elizabeth Stauderman.

Absent: Dwane Sterling, Carey Anne Zucca.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Conner at 10:33 a.m.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 13 and November 3, 2023

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes for October 13 and November 3, 2023. With no proposed changes, **the meeting minutes were unanimously approved.**

2. 2022-2023 Assessment & Institutional Effectiveness Annual Report from SIE

Institutional Effectiveness Specialist Amy Tweedy reminded the group that the Subcommittee on Institutional Effectiveness (SIE) is a subcommittee of IPPC consisting of divisional representatives from across the College. Institutional Effectiveness is the systematic and continuous process of learning by measuring the extent to which an organization achieves its mission, which is measured over time and scale. The central questions include: what is the College's mission, how are we meeting this mission, and how do we assess this? One of the expectations of our accreditation body, Middle States Commission on Higher Education, is that we have a clear assessment process in place via an institutional effectiveness plan which was approved by IPPC in May 2021. This revised plan outlines expectations for assessment both within the academic arenas and the administrative units across campus, as well as ensuring our assessment efforts are documented through annual reporting. Recognizing the need to document institutional assessment institutionally, the SIE began to publish an annual report highlighting key assessment activity beginning in 2018. Today, the annual report is an abridged version of the annual reports submitted by offices from across the College.

This is the first year the reports included highlights to reflect ongoing work connected to the Strategic Action Agenda. Efforts highlighted include SIE's focus on the student high-impact experiences, the HHMI work on inclusive and accessible teaching, the Values and Visions project, the Board of Trustees assessment, the racial campus climate surveys via NACCC, Scribner Library's work with SGA on textbook affordability, an IR occasional paper around gender-identity, a Health and Wellness satisfaction survey with students to determine if students used and knew about offerings, a Financial Aid effort on student employment (made some changes), Oracle Cloud implementation that is ongoing and survey work last year to check-in with constituents who use Oracle to make improvements.

IPPC accepted the 2022-2023 annual report for review and publication. President Conner commended the work noting that the 2022-2023 academic year work demonstrates continued commitment to promote assessment and institutional effectiveness as institutional priorities.

3. Visual Pollution Presentation from Subcommittee on Student Affairs

Last Spring, an IPPC member raised concern about some chalking on campus buildings and poles on walkways and whether or not this violated College policies. IPPC referred this item to the IPPC Subcommittee on Student Affairs. Student Government Association (SGA) President Nathaniel Lowell '24 shared that several students have expressed concern regarding posters on campus because they are being spread beyond their designated areas. There is disagreement among students about whether or not this should be allowed. Many posters are left up even after the event which is causing the campus to look cluttered. Who has the responsibility to take down these posters when they are past the event date? Another piece is that people unaffiliated with Skidmore are coming on to campus and putting posters up. As a member of the Subcommittee on Student Affairs Assistant Professor of Economics Rodrigo Schneider put together a presentation on how visual pollution impacts the community experience.

As the Subcommittee considers chalking and posters and how we are providing guidance, policies, and enforcement and balancing this with announcement of events and information. Professor Schneider spoke on visual pollution in San Paulo, Brazil which enacted the Clean City Law to combat visual pollution which prohibited advertising on billboards in the city and regulated the size of commercial signs. There were four main topics discussed: aesthetics, safety, conservation, and context. Professor Schneider compared the law's goals to Skidmore's situation. He raised questions about the impact of so many visual representations in various shapes and sizes and without limit in number or location. He asked about representation and how those visiting campus may interpret. How can we design a policy to regulate posters while allowing students to be more creative?

Dean of Students Adrian Bautista addressed the cost of clean-up of chalking and posters in the past without clarity on who is responsible for such work. While the current poster policy, which was developed several years ago, has some guidance on these matters, a revised policy could add clarity and helpful updates on best practices for sustainability and good communication. He suggested that we could have the current poster guidelines come to IPPC and integrate some of these ideas into a revised and updated College-wide policy. Some solutions to these poster problems might include clearly outlining where posters, chalking, and spray painting are allowed and removing items not in the proper designated areas. There were several comments and suggestions made for this policy moving forward. Director of Sustainability Programs and Assessment Tarah Rowse addressed the sustainability impact which has not been significant with less paper being used, but suggested there are benefits to reducing the number of posters we print and place around the campus. VP of Strategic Planning and Institutional Diversity Joshua Woodfork suggested that if we want to have a campus-wide policy we need to get constituency groups to weigh in on this topic. Overall, how do we want to get information out to people on the

campus? This is a topic that the subcommittee will continue to work on during the Spring.

4. Call for Agenda Items

Chair Conner announced that anyone who wants to submit agenda items for IPPC's consideration may submit them to him or Vice Chair Smriti Tiwari. Director Rowse said the Campus Sustainability Subcommittee has almost finished revisions to the Sustainable Construction and Renovation policy, which they hope to have endorsed by IPPC this Spring.

5. Other Business

None.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

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