Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC) Annual Report, 2005-2006

(Final 24 October 2006)

The IPPC is the all-college committee in the new governance structure that replaces the old Institutional Planning Committee (IPC), which was a faculty committee. IPPC met a total of 17 times during the 2006-06 academic year, the first year of its existence. Two of these meetings were half-day "retreat" sessions largely devoted to discussion of the revised Campus Plan that will guide the physical growth of the campus during the next half century. In addition, the Optimization Group (an expanded version of the IPPC Budget & Finance subcommittee) held several open forums to share information and discuss issues related to the optimum size of the student body for budgeting purposes. Since many members of IPPC also serve on one or more of its subcommittees (or on FEC), all of which were active during the year, the number of meetings of the full committee significantly understates the total time and effort devoted to IPPC's agenda.

The committee tackled a large number of issues and made significant progress on several projects in 2005-06; these are gathered under the headings Start-up and Organizational Issues, Major Items Addressed in 2005-06, Ongoing Business, and Reports and Updates.

Start-up and Organizational Issues:

The committee spent some time discussing its internal operations, and formed several standing subcommittees (Budget & Finance, Admissions & Financial Aid, and Student Affairs) to address ongoing responsibilities. The Campus Environment Committee (CEC, formerly a subcommittee of IPC) was absorbed as a subcommittee of IPPC; its membership was reviewed and a chair appointed (in consultation with FEC). Two persons were asked to attend IPPC meetings regularly as guests: Chief Technology Officer Justin Sipher and CEC Chair Sue Van Hook.

Major Items Addressed in 2005-06:

Middle States Accreditation: IPPC read, discussed, and provided feedback to the authors of the college's Middle States Self-Study. In addition, members of the committee met with the visiting team during their on-campus sojourn.

Optimization: IPPC formed the Optimization Task Force and charged it to make a recommendation regarding the optimum enrollment target for budgetary purposes. The Task Force ultimately recommended that the targeted enrollment be increased from 2150 to 2280, essentially accepting the actual enrollment in recent years as the new target. This change (once accepted by the Board of Trustees) allowed surplus tuition dollars "under the line" to be moved "over the line" to support the operating budget.

Campus Plan: IPPC reviewed and commented on the principles that should inform the planning for the future growth and development of the Jonsson Campus, and previewed the current draft(s) of the evolving Plan. Planning consultant Lo-Yi Chan attended two extended "retreat" sessions that the committee devoted to this topic.

Ongoing Business:

Budget development: The Budget & Finance Subcommittee shouldered much of the FY 2007 budget development burden, but the full IPPC devoted considerable time in the spring to reviewing key aspects of this budget, including capital projects and new initiatives. Two versions of the budget (with and without optimization) had to be developed, since approval of optimization by the Board of Trustees was not assured. Ultimately, the Board did accept the optimized budget, including a substantial increase in compensation for faculty and staff, which was supported by the IPPC.

Strategic Action Agenda (SAA): Primarily an administrative document, the SAA summarizes the specific implementation steps to be taken in a given year to work toward the goals of the *Strategic Plan*. Since the 2005-06 SAA was the first of its kind, the IPPC reviewed the document closely, commented on several iterations of revision, and discussed how (and how broadly) the document should be shared with campus constituencies. (Each year's completed SAA will be posted on the Web with password protection.) Toward the end of the year IPPC received a progress report on the SAA. The committee expects that the annual cycle of drafting the SAA and monitoring the achievement of its initiatives will lead to sustained progress toward the goals of the *Strategic Plan*.

Sustainability: IPPC received and began discussion of recommendations from the CEC (and the Student Affairs Subcommittee) intended to increase the sustainability of the college's operations. The key recommendation was for the college to appoint a Sustainability Coordinator.

Handbook motions: IPPC reviewed and approved several motions (originating with FEC) to change language in Part Three of the *Faculty Handbook*. Changes to Part Three require approval by FEC, IPPC, and SGA.

SGA initiatives: The committee discussed several initiatives of the SGA, including the SGA *Executive Committee Vision and Action Plan*, and possible uses for SGA's accumulated budget surplus (such as a temporary professorship). Late in the year IPPC discussed SGA's initiative to reorient the student judicial system (in particular, the policies and procedures of the Integrity Board) from a "restorative" to an "honor-based" system.

President's Awards: The Student Affairs Subcommittee was delegated the responsibility to solicit and review nominations for these awards and make recommendations to the IPPC; the subcommittee's report was received on April 21, 2006.

Reports and Updates:

Intercultural Understanding and Global Awareness Task Force: IPPC reviewed the charge to the Task Force and remained apprised of its progress. It is likely that IPPC will be involved in discussions of the Task Force's recommendations.

Campaign: The committee received a report on the Campaign from Vice President for Advancement Michael Casey.

Dining Hall renovation and expansion: Jonathan Neil and Fred DiMauro made a presentation to IPPC on this proposed project, which is now nearing completion.

Commencement Pledge: IPPC reviewed a proposed "Commencement pledge" promoting good environmental citizenship, and broadened the discussion to include other possible such pledges. This issue was brought to IPPC by the Student Affairs Subcommittee and was returned to that group for further action as SAS deems appropriate.

Racist incidents on campus: IPPC received reports about these incidents, administrative responses to them, and the efforts to draft a compromise resolution acceptable to both the faculty and the students.

Bird flu pandemic: IPPC was informed that the administration would work on plans to meet this possible eventuality.

Foundation grants: The committee received a presentation from Barry Pritzker on foundation grant applications.

Committee members for 2005-06 and 2006-07

2005-06 Members

Philip Glotzbach, President, Chair

Denise Smith, Exercise Science, Vice Chair (2006)

Charles Joseph, Vice President for Academic Affairs

Michael West, Vice President for Finance & Administration & Treasurer

Michael Casey, Vice President for Advancement

Mary Lou Bates, Dean of Admissions & Student Aid

Muriel Poston, Dean of Faculty

Paula Newberg, Dean of Special Programs

Pat Oles, Dean of Student Affairs

Ann Henderson, Registrar & Director of Institutional Research

Matt Hockenos, Chair of CEPP

William Lewis, Philosophy & Religion (on leave F'05) (2007)

Roy Rotheim, Economics (replacement for Lewis F'05)

Mark Huibregtse, Mathematics & Computer Science (2008)

Barbara McDonough, Government, support staff rep (from 03-04 FPPC) (2006)

John Chaplin, Leadership Gifts, admin/prof rep (from 03-04 FPPC) (2007)

Petria Fleming '06, President, SGA (2006)

Cheryl Jacobs '06 (2006)

Justin Sipher, Chief Technology Officer (guest)

Sue Van Hook, Sr. Teaching Associate, Biology, CEC representative (guest)

2006-07 Members

Philip Glotzbach, President, Chair

Mark Huibregtse, Professor, Mathematics, Vice Chair, faculty representative (2008)

Susan Kress, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

Muriel Poston, Dean of the Faculty

Paula Newberg, Dean of Special Programs

Michael West, Vice President Finance and Administration & Treasurer

Michael Casey, Vice President for Advancement

Mary Lou Bates, Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid

Pat Oles, Dean of Student Affairs

Ann Henderson, Registrar & Director of Institutional Research

Dan Moran '07, SGA President

Beau Breslin, Associate Professor and Chair, Government, Chair of CEPP (2007)

Mehmet Odekon, Professor, Economics, faculty representative (2009)

William Lewis, Assistant Professor, Philosophy & Religion, faculty representative (2007)

John Chaplin, Leadership Gifts Officer, A/P representative (2007)

Barbara McDonough, Secretary, Government and Law and Society, SS representative (2009)

Kelly Carr '07, SGA representative (2007)

Justin Sipher, Chief Technology Officer (guest)

Sue Van Hook, Sr. Teaching Associate, Biology, CEC representative (guest – replaced by

Kim Marsella during fall 2006)

Barbara Krause, Secretary