

INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 31, 2020

PRESENT: Mary Lou Bates; Cerri Banks; Joerg Bibow; Grace Burton, Vice Chair; Abby Ciccarone '22; Greg Gerbi; Philip A. Glotzbach, Chair; Michelle Hubbs; Stephen Ives, Carolyn Lundy; Martin Mbugua; Jennifer Mueller; Kendrah Murphy; Donna Ng; Michael Orr; Joe Porter; David Robakidze '20; Levi Rogers; Joseph Stankovich; Dwane Sterling, Amy Tweedy, and Joshua C. Woodfork.

ABSENT: Sean Campbell.

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

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the December 13, 2019 Meeting

With no proposed changes, the minutes from the December 13

3. Response to Athletic Facilities Petition

President Glotzbach thanked IPPC, the Skidmore community, and the authors of the petition for speaking up. The authors of the petition stated that they “are not opposed to the construction of new athletics facilities.” But they also stated their belief that the project could be improved if the Administration would “take their concerns seriously and act on them.” Furthermore they “bring forth this petition in the spirit of collegiality and look forward to opportunities to collaborate moving forward.” President Glotzbach affirmed that this project is indeed important for the future of the College and that we need to reframe this moment as one of collaboration and not conflict. He suggested that we are at our best when we collaborate and work together and reminded the committee that we have tried to create this reality with IPPC and in the community at large. President Glotzbach spoke to each of the issues regarding the athletics facilities petition submitted to IPPC:

a) Greenberg Child Care Center

President Glotzbach noted that it is clear from comments in the IPPC, in the community meetings, and in the petition brought forth that the Greenberg Child Care Center (GCCC) represents an important value for a substantial portion of our community. He recognized that the potential disruption during the Athletics facilities construction has raised concerns. President Glotzbach stated that the President’s Cabinet is willing to work with IPPC and the Greenberg Center staff – with whom they have been in conversation – to explore the possibility of moving the Center to another location on campus. The Center is a benefit, and in this time of significant budgetary challenges, we need to examine all our benefits carefully to determine which are most important and how they should be funded. We do need to understand that if we make the decision to relocate the Center, there will be costs. We are working now to explore possibilities and understand better the costs involved. We also need to understand that the GCCC operates at a deficit – approximately \$200K per year – and we will need to consider whether there are ways to reduce that cost.

b) Athletic Facilities Pw [do (he)-116e0 Td{A}4 (th))-4 (et)-6-u0 Tw -32.44 -1.153j0.002 Tc -0.00C BT11 (

sustainability investments in the Athletics Building – Phase I – (primarily, solar and geo-thermal) would not be attractive. However, we are doing additional research into this issue and plan to share the resulting data with the Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS) and IPPC, when it becomes available. As we look strategically at Skidmore’s commitment to environmental sustainability, it is important that we keep focused on a central question: What represents the best allocation of scarce resources to achieve the greatest gain in campus sustainability? We need to ensure that we are getting the best sustainability return for our scarce resources. Concern was also expressed around the involvement – or lack of involvement – by the CSS in the planning of this project. Last fall, we asked the CSS to research other colleges to determine what guidelines they have in place for designing building projects – with the end of proposing a set of guidelines that would help us as we move forward with future building projects. This is a much more strategic role for the CSS to play, as opposed to being involved in individual projects.

Considerable discussion ensued regarding President Glotzbach’s remarks and the petition. Members thanked President Glotzbach for listening to the concerns raised in the petition and all the work in progress to be responsive. IPPC members stated that they were appreciative of President Glotzbach’s addressing the concerns regarding the GCCC. A few members stated that they believe that the GCCC should be moved sooner rather than later. In response to a question regarding GCCS’s operating deficit, Vice President for Finance and Administration & Treasurer Donna Ng explained that we charge annual fees to all students to help cover the operating costs of the GCCC.

chaunw@skidmore.edu (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D) 10/14/14 11:22:51 AM

IPPC members noted the substantial time commitment this engagement with CHP will take and the need to balance this with other agenda items and Spring semester work.

5. Call for Agenda Items

- a) Oracle Update (bumped from our 12/13/19 meeting agenda);
- b) Religious Observance Policy (returning from 12/13/19 meeting)

6. Other Business

No other business was brought forward.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.