Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC)
Annual Report, 2012-2013

July 15, 2013

The IPPC advises the President with regard to strategic planning, taking a comprehensive view of significant issues affecting the College. In so doing, it serves as the central deliberative body for all-

2012. The working group conferred with several constituencies regarding drafts of the Standards of Business Conduct Policy, presented it to the faculty for discussion, and held an open forum for the Skidmore community to comment. The faculty endorsed the policy at the April 26 faculty meeting. [9/7] [12/14] [4/5]

D. Smoking Policy

The subcommittee on Student Affairs presented recommendations for a new smoking policy at Skidmore. IPPC will revisit this issue next year as more work is done to finalize a recommendation. [5/3]

4. Science Initiative

The Science Initiative was a significant focus for IPPC this academic year. Beau Breslin, Dean of Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Karen Kellogg, Associate Dean of Faculty, regularly kept the Committee apprised of the work being done to move the science initiative forward. Some of the most important issues included:

- How the new building will change the way science is taught at Skidmore and the student experience
- The role the new science space can play in faculty development
- The role the new building will play for Admissions
- How the new science facility will increase the visibility of Skidmore's science programs

The Board of Trustees heard presentations regarding the science initiative at their regular meeting in late October, at a special meeting at the end of November, and at their February meeting. [9/7] [9/21] 10/5] [11/16] [12/14] [3/1]

5. Option to Purchase two Properties

The Committee discussed the possibility of purchasing two properties that have been made available to the College. One is 954 N. Broadway, Saratoga Springs; the other is on West Avenue in Saratoga Springs. The Committee discussed the effect these purchases might have on other building projects on campus. President Glotzbach indicated that the Board of Trustees would make the final decisions. [4/19]

6. IPPC Structure/Function, Subcommittees and Interaction with Governance

A. Faculty Executive Committee Chair Membership on IPPC

IPPC voted to formalize the decision to add the Chair of the Faculty Executive Committee (FEC) to IPPC's membership. IPPC further voted to amend the "Function" and "Membership" sections of the IPPC Operating Code to implement the decision. [12/14]

B. Assessment Steering Committee as a new IPPC subcommittee

Faculty Assessment Coordinator, Sarah Goodwin, brought a proposal to IPPC to make the Assessment Steering Committee a subcommittee of IPPC rather than a subcommittee of the Committee on Policies and Planning. The reasons for the recommendation are largely due to IPPC's broad institutional perspective, a factor that is critical to the assessment and accreditation process. After robust discussion, IPPC voted to approve establishment of the IPPC Assessment Subcommittee. The IPPC Operating Code has been revised to reflect this addition. [11/2] [11/16]

C. Space Planning Working Group

The Space Planning Working Group (SPWG) serves as an important resource for space and facilities planning on campus. IPPC considered the future of the SPWG, and after significant discussions, the Committee decided that along with appropriate administrators, the SPWG should include one student drawn from the student members of IPPC and one faculty member drawn from the elected faculty on IPPC. The working group is co-chaired by the Associate Dean of Faculty for Infrastructure, Sustainability, and Civic Engagement, and the Director of Financial Planning and Budgeting. Recommendations from the SPWG include moving the Anthropology Department to Dana Hall, moving Communications temporarily to the former Faculty Staff Club, and moving the President's Office temporarily to the former Special Programs space while the President's Office undergoes renovations. [10/19] [11/2] [11/16] [3/1] [4/19]

D. Committee on Intercultural and Global Understanding Statement on Diversity and Inclusion (CIGU)

Conversations continued from March 2012, regarding CIGU's "Statement on Diversity and Inclusion at Skidmore College." IPPC voted unanimously to express support for the statement and to encourage its use in appropriate ways and venues. [12/14]

E. Campus Sustainability Subcommittee

The Campus Sustainability subcommittee outlined the process for developing a long-term plan for sustainability at Skidmore and its connection to the broader institutional strategic planning process. At the final meeting of the year, Riley Neugebauer, Campus Sustainability Coordinator, presented a draft proposal for the Strategic Planning Process for Sustainability. The Committee decided that Cabinet would review a revised proposal at its June retreat. Discussions regarding this proposal will be on IPPC's agenda for 2013-14. [4/19] [5/3]