

Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC) Annual Report, 2015-2016

The Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC) advises the President

IPPC unanimously endorsed the final version of the *Strategic Plan* in preparation for a vote on the floor of the Faculty meeting later that same day.

From the Faculty Meeting Minutes (02/05/2016):

“On behalf of the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee, Associate Professor Tim Harper read the following Motion that was introduced at the last Faculty Meeting (see attached):

MOTION: The Institutional Policy and Planning Committee (IPPC) presents to the faculty “Creating Pathways to Excellence: The Plan for Skidmore College, 2015-2025” and requests the faculty’s endorsement of the 2015-2025 *Strategic Plan*. <http://www.skidmore.edu/planning/next-strategic-plan.php>.”

Brief discussion was held concerning language relating to “migration” of the campus and typographical errors in the *Strategic Plan*, endowment growth, and aspirations/priorities. Unanimous consent was given to consider the *Strategic Plan* for endorsement, with the caveat that the plan will be copy-edited as necessary. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the 2015-2025 *Strategic Plan*. The motion was voted on and passed by majority vote.”

3. Admissions and Financial Aid

Thanks to the excellent work of Admissions leadership and staff, Skidmore’s admissions and financial aid

mindful of their responsibility toward other members of the faculty, asked that the Administration consider presenting the proposal in a format and venue where significant members of the community could be informed of the proposal's details and implications.

Interim Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs Gail Cummings-Danson reminded the Committee of the campus' sexual and gender-based misconduct policy and procedures as a response to related events and circumstances. Gail noted a call among some individuals on campus for the creation of a "Center" focused around victims and survivors, a proposal that did not generate support either within the Committee or the Administration. IPPC members proposed and discussed ways in which their respective constituents can be helpful in eliminating sexual and gender-based misconduct from campus.

9. Task Force on Divestment

President Glotzbach informed IPPC of the Board of Trustee's (BOT) response to the

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this time given other uncertainties related to space across the campus and the need for “swing space.”

12. Discussion of IPPC Roles and Responsibilities

As stated elsewhere in the report, at different points during the academic year, various IPPC members sought clarification regarding their responsibilities on the committee, level of accountability to various constituencies, and the degree to which IPPC members directly represent the bodies from which they were elected or appointed to IPPC. Conversations regarding these points were held in subsequent meetings.

13. Policy Discussions:

A. Pilot Staff Advisory Group

The vision, mission, and goals of the Staff Advisory Group were presented to IPPC. The group’s first meeting occurred in September, 2015, and the Group continued to meet throughout the year.

B. Standardized Testing

The first meeting of the Standardized Testing Task Force was held on October 1, 2015. The group discussed the current state of standardized testing at the university and the need for a comprehensive review of the process. The group also discussed the need for a task force to be formed to address these issues. The task force was formed in November 2015 and has been meeting regularly since that time. The task force has held several public hearings and has received input from a wide range of stakeholders. The task force is currently in the process of reviewing the current state of standardized testing at the university and will be submitting a report to the IPPC in the near future.

F. Honorary Degree Policy

The President reported that the Trusteeship Committee of the Board of Trustees has recommended to the full Board of Trustees that Skidmore not create a specific policy to rescind honorary degrees in light of nationwide conversations regarding how academic institutions should handle flagrant conduct of past honorary degree recipients. The President spoke with CAPT regarding this decision as well.

G. Committee on Academic Standing (CAS) Proposal – Eliminate Overload Fees

Professor David Cohen, Chair of the Committee on Academic Standing (CAS), presented a proposal to eliminate overload fees for all students to ensure equity and access. IPPC approved the recommendation on April 15, 2016.

H. Restorative Justice Re-integration Project Proposal

David Karp, Professor of Sociology presented a proposal for Skidmore to adopt the Restorative Justice Re-integration Project. In brief, the project focuses on supporting Restorative Justice initiatives at all levels of education as well as in the criminal justice system. Please refer to the IPPC minutes of April 15, 2016 for a more detailed explanation. IPPC approved the proposal.

Respectfully submitted,
Philip A. Glotzbach, Chair
Timothy L. Harper, Vice Chair

IPPC Committee Membership for 2015-2016

Chair Philip A. Glotzbach, President

Vice Chair Timothy L. Harper, Management & Business, Faculty Member

Mary Lou Bates, Vice President and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid

April Bernard, Chair, Committee on Educational Policies and Planning (CEPP) (Fall 2015)

Kelly Sheppard, Chair, Committee on Educational Policies and Planning (CEPP) (Spring 2016)

Beau Breslin, Dean of the Faculty & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Paul Calhoun, Dean of Special Programs

Michael Casey, Collyer Vice President for Advancement

Gail Cummings-Danson, Interim Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs

Bill Duffy, Chief Technology Officer

Julia Elstein '17, SGA Vice President for Financial Affairs (Fall 2015)

Addison Bennett '16, SGA VP for Financial Affairs (Spring 2016)

Elzbieta Lepkowska-White, Co-Chair, Committee on Intercultural and Global Understanding (CIGU)

Michelle Hubbs, Co-Chair, Subcommittee on Responsible Citizenship (SRC) (Fall 2015)

Eric Morser, Co-Chair, Subcommittee on Responsible Citizenship (SRC) (Spring 2016)

Levi Rogers, Chair, Campus Sustainability Subcommittee (CSS)

Denise Smith, Chair, Faculty Executive Committee

Joseph Stankovich, Director of Institutional Research

